

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Thirteenth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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(Vol. XXXV contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 50.00

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[Thirteenth Series, Vol. XXXV, Thirteenth Session, 2003/1925 (Saka)]

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, July 28, 2003/Sravana 6, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the sudden and untimely demise of one of our esteemed colleagues, Shri George Eden.

Shri George Eden was a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha, representing the Ernakulam Parliamentary constituency of Kerala. He was also a Member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha from 1998 to 1999, representing the same Parliamentary Constituency.

Shri Eden was earlier a Member of the Kerala Legislative Assembly from 1991 to 1998.

As a Member of the Lok Sabha, Shri Eden was a member of the Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests from 1998 to 1999 and the Committee on External Affairs from 2001 to 2003. He was also a member of the Consultative Committee, Ministry of Tourism from 1998 to 1999 and National Shipping Board from 2001 to 2003.

An advocate by profession, Shri Eden was an active political and social worker. He was a member of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram and Spices Board from 1998 to 1999.

Shri George Eden passed away on 26th July, 2003 at New Delhi at the age of 50.

Shri Eden was known to me for many years. On his death, I have lost a personal friend.

We deeply mourn the loss of our respected colleague and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

11.03 hrs.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

11.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Hike in Air Fare

*101. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:
SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India and some other private operators recently hiked the passenger and cargo fares;

(b) if so, the extent of increase indicating the revised and the previous fares; and

(c) the reasons for such a hike?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines have increased their Rupee fares for passengers on domestic sectors by 15% w.e.f. 26.3.2003. On international sector, Indian Airlines has increased its fares from India to South-East Asia by 7-18%, on select routes, w.e.f. 5.4.2003 and Air India has increased its international passenger fares by 5% w.e.f. 15.4.2003 from India to USA, Canada, Europe, Middle East, South East Asia, Japan, Korea and Australia.

Indian Airlines and Jet Airways have not effected any increase in their cargo tariffs in the year 2003, whereas Air Sahara has increased it by 7-10% from January, 2003 onwards. Air India has increased the rates for perishable cargo from Mumbai to the Gulf and Middle East by Rs. 2 per kg. w.e.f. 1.3.2003 and to London from Rs. 65,000 per container to Rs. 77,000 per container w.e.f. 18.3.2003.

(c) Domestic airlines have effected increase in air fares in order to offset the increase in the cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel and other operating costs. Air India has followed the general fare increase decided by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The cargo rates of Air India traditionally go up in the months of April, May and June every year as this is the peak season for export of perishable commodities and come down again in July.

[Translation]

Income from Agriculture Sector

*102. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total income generated from agriculture sector during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of average per-capita income in respect of a marginal farmer, medium farmer and farmers with large land holdings at present in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the said income is adequate to meet the basic needs of the marginal and medium farmers;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government for improving the condition and status of the farmers during 2003-04 and in the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan separately?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) The State-wise estimates of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) from Agriculture during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) The details of average per capita income of farmers according to size class of holdings are not available. However, State-wise figures of average per capita GSDP for cultivators, which represent gross value added in agriculture in respect of cultivators for 2001-02, are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) and (d) The figures of gross value added in agriculture, shown in Table II, represent the difference between the gross value of output and the value of material inputs. As such, gross value added does not indicate net income accruing to cultivators, and hence it is not possible to make any assessment of the adequacy of income for meeting the basic needs of cultivators.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to improve the conditions and status of farmers include announcement of Minimum Support Prices, backed by procurement, to avoid distress sale by farmers, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, economic incentives through subsidy on fertilizers, seeds, agricultural implements, etc., timely availability of agricultural credit and inputs at reasonable cost, and investment aimed at improving rural infrastructure with focus on rural godowns, cold storage etc. In order to raise the condition and status of farmers, it is necessary to invest in sectors with potential for high value addition. Accordingly, the Union Budget 2003-04 has proposed a new Central Sector Scheme on Hi-tech Horticulture and Precision Farming. The major components of the scheme are use of hi-tech interventions like fertigation, use of biotechnological tools, green food production, and hi-tech green houses.

Statement I

Gross State Domestic Product from Agriculture at Current price for the years from 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 (State-wise)

(Rs. lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3235780	3648380	3702018
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	49706	55446	53704

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	1039256	997111	976063
4.	Bihar	11523411	1624351	1732118
5.	Jharkhand*	573535	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Goa	46251	38259	40469
7.	Gujarat	1568377	1392297	N.A.
8.	Haryana	1573953	1676270	1714498
9.	Himachal Pradesh	260290	290634	N.A.
10.	J&K	360670	371815	N.A.
11.	Karnataka	2619384	2667831	N.A.
12.	Kerala	1270793	1332045	1392253
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2418350	1815434	2186940
14.	Chhattisgarh*	507374	412316	618471
15.	Maharashtra	3579027	3309208	3453781
16.	Manipur	71756	77988	81716
17.	Meghalaya	76389	85138	85396
18.	Mizoram	28153	44914	N.A.
19.	Nagaland	61140	N.A.	N.A.
20.	Orissa	1147105	1011776	1232369
21.	Punjab	2484873	2628077	N.A.
22.	Rajasthan	2230222	1962203	2440000
23.	Sikkim	20693	22823	25214
24.	Tamil Nadu	1886672	2043141	2005991
25.	Tripura	122453	132479	N.A.
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5749874	5730998	N.A.
27.	Uttaranchal*	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
28.	West Bengal	3485487	3520408	3814658
29.	A & N Islands	17985	N.A.	N.A.
30.	Chandigarh	5206	4905	N.A.
31.	Delhi	83430	87475	N.A.
32.	Pondicherry	15754	15182	15048

*Newly formed States.

N.A.—Not Available.

Statement II*State-wise Per Capita Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) per cultivator in 2001-2002.*

S. No.	State/UT	Agriculture GSDP (2001-02) (Rs. Lakhs)	No. of Cultivators As per Population Census 2001	GSDP per Cultivator
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3702018	7903635	46839
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	53704	281822	19056
3.	Assam	976063	3741912	26085
4.	Bihar	1732118	8192108	21144
5.	Jharkhand*	N.A.	3908235	N.A.
6.	Goa	40469	50663	79879
7.	Gujarat	N.A.	5613185	N.A.
8.	Haryana	1714498	3046091	56285
9.	Himachal Pradesh	N.A.	1960840	N.A.
10.	J&K	N.A.	1599656	N.A.
11.	Karnataka	N.A.	6936121	N.A.
12.	Kerala	1392253	740403	188040
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2186940	11058500	19776
14.	Chhattisgarh*	618471	4316981	14326
15.	Maharashtra	3453781	12009903	28758
16.	Manipur	81716	492696	16585
17.	Meghalaya	85396	457195	18678
18.	Mizoram	N.A.	253167	N.A.
19.	Nagaland	N.A.	544433	N.A.
20.	Orissa	1232369	4238347	29077
21.	Punjab	N.A.	2099330	N.A.
22.	Rajasthan	2440000	13166777	18531

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	25214	131422	19186
24.	Tamil Nadu	2005991	5114384	39223
25.	Tripura	N.A.	311378	N.A.
26.	Uttar Pradesh	N.A.	22172563	N.A.
27.	Uttaranchal*	N.A.	1559415	N.A.
28.	West Bengal	3814658	5613113	67960
29.	A & N Islands	N.A.	21136	N.A.
30.	Chandigarh	N.A.	1585	N.A.
31.	Delhi	N.A.	36588	N.A.
32.	Pondicherry	15048	11284	133357

*Newly formed States.

N.A.—Not Available.

[English]

Green Belt for Abatement of Pollution and Environment Improvement

*103. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently launched a new programme namely "Green Belt for Abatement of Pollution and Environment Improvement" in selected cities/towns with a view to reduce the adverse effects of air, water and noise pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the guidelines/parameters for selection of various cities/towns under the programme;

(d) the number of cities/towns selected under the programme State-wise; and

(e) the total amount earmarked and spent under the programme so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Government have undertaken a pilot project on Green Belt for Abatement

of Pollution and Environmental Improvement to reduce the adverse effects of air, water and noise pollution in five cities, namely; Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem and Tirunelveli and in 102 municipalities of Tamil Nadu. The project involved raising and planting 2,94,000 saplings in the five cities at a total cost of Rs. 4.557 crores of which Rs. 4.00 crores was funded by Government of India and Rs. 0.557 crores by Government of Tamil Nadu. The raising and planting of saplings in the 102 Municipalities involved a cost of Rs. 1.02 crores of which Rs. 0.765 crores was provided by Government of India and Rs. 0.255 crores by Government of Tamil Nadu. Similar proposals have been invited from other States also.

Financial Condition of Airports

*104. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Airports which earned profits or incurred losses during April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2003, separately, year-wise:

(b) the amount of profit/loss earned by each airport during the said period;

(c) the reasons for incurring losses alongwith the steps taken by the Government to make these airports profitable;

(d) whether the Government propose to handover the loss-incurring airports to the concerned State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) During the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 the airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Juhu, Pune, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Goa and Bangalore earned profits of Rs. 703.49 crores and Rs. 657.00 crores respectively. The airports earning profit during 2002-03 includes Calicut also.

During the years 2001-02 and 2002-03, seventy-one operational airports incurred a loss of Rs. 224.44 crores and Rs. 273.66 crores respectively. The amount of year 2001-02 in addition includes Calicut airport also. There are 42 non-operational airports which incurred a loss of Rs. 2.07 crores and Rs. 2.09 crores for the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 respectively on account of their maintenance.

(c) The major reason for incurring consistent losses is the very low volume of traffic at these airports. Airports Authority of India is taking steps to increase the Non-Aeronautical Revenue at these airports to the extent possible and also to reduce the controllable expenditure.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present as Airports Authority of India is technically and operationally better equipped than State Governments to provide infrastructural services.

Insurance Cover to Indian Migrant Labour

*105. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government's proposal to provide mandatory insurance cover to Indian migrant labour has been put on hold;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the labourers in critical areas are also not covered under the insurance scheme;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to cover all the labourers thereunder;

(e) whether the Government have recommended amendments in the Emigration Act to check exploitation and provide social security to the migrant labourers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) The provision for providing insurance cover besides other welfare measures for vulnerable categories of workers going abroad for employment exists in the Emigration (Amendment) Bill, 2002 which has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 21.11.2002. The Bill provides for an Indian Overseas Workers Welfare Fund to be administered by Central Manpower Export Promotion Council. This Fund will be utilized for (i) arranging repatriation of stranded workers, (ii) transportation of dead bodies, and (iii) granting assistance to partially or permanently disabled emigrants for injuries sustained while in legal employment abroad.

Investment in Agricultural Sector

*106. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of investment made in the Agricultural Sector during the last three years;

(b) whether the circumstances were not conducive for investment in this sector;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) the extent of shortfall in investment in this sector as compared to the previous decade;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to augment the capital investment; and

(f) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (d) The figures of investment in agriculture

and allied sectors measured in terms of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) at 1993-94 prices for the year 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are Rs. 20,024 crore, Rs. 19,578 crore and Rs. 21,140 crore respectively. The average annual GCF in agriculture in real terms (at 1993-94 prices) increased from Rs. 14,283 crore in 1980s to Rs. 17,136 crore in the 1990s.

(e) and (f) The Government have taken a number of steps to augment capital formation in agriculture. These include remunerative prices for agricultural commodities through announcement of Minimum Support Prices for Kharif and Rabi crops, supply of timely credit at reasonable cost, supply of crucial inputs like fertilizer and seeds, and strengthening of rural infrastructure through construction of rural godowns, cold storages etc.

Indus Water Treaty

*107. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting to discuss the 1960 Indus Water Treaty was recently held in New Delhi between the representatives of India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held between the two countries;

(c) whether any discussion was also held with regard to the construction of 450 MW Baglihar Hydro Power Project in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, whether the Government have sought financial assistance from the World Bank for the implementation of the project;

(e) if so, whether Pakistan have proposed the involvement of World Bank in resolving the dispute over the construction of this project; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) The 89th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) was held at New Delhi from 28th to 30th May, 2003 within the framework of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960.

(b) and (c) Annual report of the work of the Commission for the year ended on 31st March 2003, tentative programme of tours during 2003-04 and arrangements by India for communication of flood flows data to Pakistan during monsoon of 2003 were finalized. Discussions were also held on a few other items including Baglihar and Kishenganga projects.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Pakistan has requested for the appointment of a Neutral Expert to resolve its questions/objections over the Baglihar Project. The Indus Waters Treaty also provides for appointment of a neutral expert by the World Bank, if there is no agreement between the two Governments.

(f) In keeping with the spirit of goodwill and cooperation, as envisaged in the Indus Waters Treaty, India has been urging Pakistan for an amicable settlement through technical discussions between the two countries on Pakistan's objections regarding Baglihar Hydroelectric Project. During the recently held 89th meeting of the PIC, India once again expressed its willingness to hold such discussions in order to resolve the matter amicably.

Management of Shrines

*108. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:
SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of State Cultural Ministers was held to discuss the matter relating to managing the affairs of religious shrines and places of historical importance in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the proposal for enacting suitable legislation;

(c) the details of religious shrines and historical places taken up for discussion during the meeting, State-wise;

(d) whether any agreement has been reached with the State Ministers in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. A meeting of State Culture Ministers was held on May 13, 2003 to discuss the creation of better facilities and infrastructure at places

of tourist and cultural importance, including shrines and places of historical importance. The discussion also touched upon the desirability of enacting legislation for the maintenance of important temples and places of worship on the model of the Jammu & Kashmir Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Act, 1988, the enactment of which resulted in manifold increase in the number of pilgrims and contributed significantly to boosting the economy of the region. There was a general agreement with regard to the Union Government's schemes under which various hubs of culture, tourism and clean civic life are being set up with the twin objective of promoting tourism and improving conditions in and around shrines and historic places.

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

*109. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to double the production of foodgrains during the coming ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the crops proposed to be covered under this scheme;

(d) whether the Government have proposed to give financial assistance and subsidy under the scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the manner in which this is different from the existing agriculture scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (f) Sir, there is no scheme formulated to double the production of foodgrains during the coming 10 years. However, the Planning Commission had suggested the following targets for various food items:-

Food Items	Production Targets (Million Tonnes)		
	IX Plan (2001-02)	X Plan (2006-07)	Action Plan (2007-08)
Rice	99.0	124.2	130.0
Wheat	83.0	104.1	109.0
Coarse Cereals	35.5	40.0	41.0
Pulses	16.5	19.4	20.0
Total Foodgrains	234.0	287.7	300.0
Oilseeds	30.0	42.7	45.00
Sugarcane	336.0	435.2	495.0
Fruits & Vegetables	179.0	307.2	342.0
Milk	87.0	121.5	130.0
Egg (Million nos.)	3500.0	4928.6	5300.0
Fish	6.9	9.1	9.6

For this purpose, regionally differentiated strategy based on different agro-climatic zones was suggested by Planning Commission. The main features of the strategy for crops are as follows:

(a) Promoting cropping system approach of increasing the production and productivity of creals crops as a whole against the individual crop approach. Encouragement will be given to follow green manuring and use of compost and other organic sources;

- (b) Encouraging varietal replacement and propagation of newer location specific High Yielding Varieties with biotic and abiotic resistance;
- (c) Improving the resource base of the farmers and encouraging devices for efficient water management for timely and effective field operations;
- (d) Popularisation of improved crop production technologies through organization of field demonstrations on farmer's holdings and training of farmers and farm labourers including women;
- (e) Encouraging the integrated nutrient management for sustainable agricultural production;
- (f) Greater emphasis on the adoption of Integrated Pest Management Approach to control the pests and diseases and also use of weedicides to control the weed menace to crops;
- (g) More emphasis on the proper adoption of non-monetary inputs like timely sowing, maintaining optimum plant population, efficient use of fertilizer and need based plant protection measures; and
- (h) Extension education efforts will be strengthened to make farmers more receptive to new technology.

For achieving the targets of foodgrains production envisaged by Planning Commission, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes in different States of the country. For the X Plan period a sum of Rs. 13,300 crores has been approved by Planning Commission to Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for undertaking various schemes for sustainable development of agriculture.

[English]

Multi-Cultural Complexes

*110. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
SHRI ADHI SANKAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up multi-purpose cultural complexes in the country in collaboration with the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with number of such complexes to be set up in each State, State wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure time bound execution of the plan; and

(d) the details of the cultural centres set up/renovated during 2001-02 and 2002-03 particularly in Gujarat, Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Since the inception of the scheme, the Department has funded projects in the following States.

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Bihar
3. Haryana
4. Jammu & Kashmir
5. Kerala
6. Karnataka
7. Manipur
8. Mizoram
9. Madhya Pradesh
10. Nagaland
11. Orissa
12. Punjab
13. Pondicherry
14. Sikkim
15. Tripura
16. Uttar Pradesh
17. West Bengal.

Out of these, projects at Nagaland and Karnataka, are fully functional while others are under various stages of implementation. The physical progress of projects is monitored regularly through departmental meetings and inspections.

(d) During 2001-02 and 2002-03 funding was provided for projects in Mizoram (Rs. 50 lakh), Pondicherry (Rs. 20 lakh), Punjab (Rs. 25 lakh), Sikkim (Rs. 335 lakh) Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 100 lakhs) and Arunachal Pradesh

(Rs. 130 lakhs). No proposals have been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Delhi. In the case of Haryana, the Department has provided the first instalment of Rs. 25 lakh for setting up of MPCC at Kurukshetra.

Funds for Rice Research Programme

*111. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds crunch has hit the rice research programme in the country;

(b) if so, the key areas of research that are affected; and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There has been no fund crunch for rice research in the country.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise.

Assessment on Performance of BT. Cotton

*112. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked to State Governments to submit official assessment report on the performance of BT. Cotton, in their States, which was developed and promoted by Monsanto-Mahyco Bio-Tech Limited;

(b) if so, whether the States have sent their reports;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of losses suffered by each State as a result thereof;

(d) the reasons why the G.E.A.C. is going ahead about approving the transgenic crops one after the other despite the cotton growers voicing their opposition and have demanded compensation for the losses suffered by them;

(e) whether Indonesian firms have demanded compensation of US \$ one billion from Monsanto for the loss suffered and also Indian cotton growers have demanded compensation from the said firm; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Reports received from States indicate that the incidence of bollworm has been less in Bt. in comparison to non-Bt. cotton resulting in reduced requirement of pesticide spray. The hybrids have, however, shown susceptibility to wilting and sucking pest.

(d) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee had accorded conditional approval for commercial cultivation of only Bt. cotton in April, 2002 for a period of three years, that too only three hybrids. These three approved hybrids are presently under cultivation in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kamataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

(e) and (f) According to the available information, no crop failure compensation claim has been made on Monsanto Indonesia by any Indonesian agency.

As per the available information, some farmers from States where Bt. cotton was released for cultivation have approached Consumer Forums for compensation due to alleged poor performance of Bt. cotton. The details of the cases are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Details of the Cases Filed by Farmers in Consumer Forums

Name of the States	Number of farmers who Planted Bt. Cotton	Cases filed in Consumer Forums
Andhra Pradesh	6853	21
Gujarat	13269	06
Karnataka	2960	Nil
Maharashtra	15925	10
Madhya Pradesh	2016	10
Tamil Nadu	295	Nil
Total	41318	47

River-Linking Project

*113. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Governments have conveyed their resentment against the river-linking project;

(b) if so, the details of resentment including the action taken to resolve them;

(c) whether the sources of funding and the socio-economic and ecological costs of the project were estimated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) to (d) Various basin States have expressed divergent views about the water balance studies and feasibility reports of various river-linking projects prepared by National Water Development Agency (NWDA). The major apprehensions expressed by the States are as follows:-

- (i) Submergence of cultivable and forest land and displacement of people due to construction of storage reservoirs.
- (ii) States have apprehensions about the availability of surplus water worked out by NWDA.
- (iii) Apprehensive about reliability of long distance transfers.
- (iv) States feel that proposed water transfer in proposals of interlinking of rivers may disturb the existing tribunal awards.
- (v) Power requirement for lifting of water may not be available.

With a view to bringing about a consensus among the States and provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding etc. The Central Government has set up a Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers. The Task Force has been asked to submit Action Plan II giving alternative options for funding and execution of the project as also the suggested methods for cost recovery by July 31, 2003.

Joint Tourism Project

*114. DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Joint Tourism Project to travel along Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Rajasthan to attract foreign and domestic tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps have been taken for connectivity by Rail and Air to attract tourists in those States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration in the Department of Tourism.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Declaration of Forest Villages as Revenue Villages

*115. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from various States to declare their forest villages as revenue villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have given its approval/no objection under the Forest Conservation Act for all these forest villages;

(d) if so, the number of forest villages declared/to be declared as revenue villages, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of the National Forest Policy, 1988, Central Government had issued guidelines in September, 1990, for conversion of

forest villages into revenue villages. Central Government during 2002, have received 11 proposals for conversion of 316 forest villages into revenue villages in 11 Districts from Government of Madhya Pradesh, one proposal for 73 forest villages in Nandurbar District from Government of Maharashtra and 19 proposals for 421 forest villages in 14 Districts from Government of Chhattisgarh. During 1994, Government of Orissa had also submitted three such proposals for Sambalpur District. Recently, in June, 2003, Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a fresh list of 925 forest villages in 27 Districts including 11 Districts proposed earlier, involving an area of 230239.69 hectares.

(c) to (e) The Government have already approved conversion of 94 forest villages into revenue villages in five districts of Madhya Pradesh and 73 forest villages in Nandurbar District of Maharashtra. Regarding the proposals of Chhattisgarh information submitted by the State Government was incomplete and therefore, proposals have been returned to the State Government. In case of Orissa, the proposals were not in conformity with the guidelines, therefore, proposals have been closed. The recent proposal of Government of Madhya Pradesh involving 925 forest villages, is not in conformity with the guidelines issued by the Ministry for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages.

Forest Cover and Illegal Felling of Trees

*116. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the forest cover in the States has been shrinking despite spending of thousands of crores rupees by the Union Government on the afforestation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any officials have been held responsible for this work during the last two years;

(d) if so, the details thereof, States-wise;

(e) whether illegal felling of trees has taken place during the last three years and is still continuing in certain States including Orissa due to the nexus between forest officials and forest mafia; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. The forest cover in the country according to 1999 assessment made by Forest Survey of India was 637,293 Sq. Km. while according to 2001 assessment, it has been estimated as 675,538 Sq. Km.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) There is no report with the Central Government regarding forest personnel having connections with forest mafia. However, the cases of illegal felling of trees do occur in various States including Orissa and on detection, action is taken by officials of the State Governments under Indian Forest Act, 1927 and other relevant Acts. The implementation of the provisions of these Acts and Rules is the responsibility of the State Governments.

[English]

Unauthorised Cultivation of Ganja in the Reserve Forests

*117. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large area of reserve forests is being used for unauthorised cultivation of Ganja in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the Ganja cultivation in the reserve forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The unauthorised cultivation of Ganja is not a common occurrence in the Reserve Forests of the Country. According to the information provided by the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, the extent of Ganja Cultivation within the forest area during the year 2002 is as follows. No large scale Ganja cultivation in Reserve Forests has been reported during the said period by other States.

Tamil Nadu—This activity is mainly confined along the Western Ghats in Theni, Kodaikanal, Thirunelveli and Dharmapuri Districts. During the year 2002 Ganja has been destroyed in 36.198 ha.

Kerala—The inaccessible forest area of Attappady Hills in Palakkad District and Idduki District are found to be more susceptible. During the year 2002, a total of 256510 Ganja plants were destroyed.

(c) To prevent cultivation of Ganja in and around Reserve Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu has formed Special Protection Squads to keep continuous vigil on these areas. With the coordinated efforts of Revenue, Police, Forest officials and State Police Narcotic Bureau wing, cultivation of Ganja in fresh areas is being kept under check.

Forest Department, Kerala has set up an Anti Ganja Squad under the charge of Assistant Conservator of Forests to curb the illegal cultivation and take action against offenders. Regular raids and combing operations in susceptible areas are being conducted by the territorial and flying squads divisional forest officers. An intelligence cell is functioning under the Chief Conservator of Forest (Vigilance) to gather secret information on such illegal activities. Two units of rapid action force consisting of personnel of Police and Forest Departments are also functioning for taking action against Ganja cultivation.

In addition, Government of India has taken a number of steps to curb drug trafficking as well as measures to destroy illicit growth of cannabis in the Country. These include:

- (i) Empowerment of a large number of Central and State Agencies under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances act, 1985, to ensure its effective implementation.
- (ii) Improved coordination between various Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in order to have better coordination to have a check on the illegal activity.
- (iii) Strengthening of the Intelligence Apparatus to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (iv) Training to upgrade the skill of law enforcement officers.

Aphid Attack on Cane Crop

*118. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States faced aphid attack on cane crop this year;

(b) if so, the estimated loss to farmers on this account State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal with the Government to provide relief to the affected farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the role played by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Large scale infestation of Woolly aphid on sugarcane crop was reported from the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka. Minor incidence of this pest was also reported from some parts of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Andhra Pradesh. In Maharashtra, as per the survey report of the State Department of Agriculture and the State Agricultural University, the incidence in 2002-03 was mainly recorded in sugarcane cultivation of Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Pune, Ahmednagar and Sholapur districts. Infestation of aphid on sugarcane in Karnataka was relatively more in Belgaum district followed by Bagalkot, Bidar, Bijapur and Bellari as reported by University of Agriculture Sciences, Dharwad. The area affected in Maharashtra and Karnataka was 1.32 lakh ha. and 0.87 lakh ha. respectively.

The estimated loss to farmers in terms of yield has been between 12 to 20 per cent depending upon the intensity of infestation in the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka. In other States the loss was not appreciable.

(c) and (d) Following measures have already been taken to provide relief to farmers in control of White Woolly Aphid:-

- (i) The States of Maharashtra and Karnataka have treated an area of 1.16 lakh ha. and 0.38 lakh ha. respectively with agro chemicals during 2002-03 to control the infestation.
- (ii) Government of India caused the concerned State Governments, State Agricultural Universities and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to survey the sugarcane infested areas. The said surveys were carried out in Maharashtra and Karnataka as well as in other affected States. The States were also advised to undertake surveillance for further outbreaks of the pest so that timely control measures could be initiated.

- (iii) Government of Maharashtra has supplied pesticides on 25% subsidy and sprayed/dusted an area of 1.16 lakh hectares by incurring an expenditure of Rs. 76.49 lakh and also earmarked Rs. 100.00 lakh for plant protection measures for sugarcane crop.
- (iv) As far as the State of Karnataka is concerned, the State Government has distributed plant protection chemicals and equipments worth Rs. 77.87 lakhs as subsidy to farmers to adopt control measures. Further, sugarcane crop has also been covered in the year 2002-03 under the crop insurance scheme and 52373 farmers have been covered under this scheme in the State.
- (v) The Government of India has requested the State Governments to include the proposal, as a new intervention, in their work plans within the ceiling of the funds already allocated to them under Macro Management Scheme.
- (vi) A Central Team under the Chairmanship of Dr. C.R. Hazra, Agriculture Commissioner was deputed to Maharashtra and Karnataka from 3-5th March, 2003 and the recommendations of the Team have been communicated to all States/UTs affected by the pest for necessary action including long term and short term strategy to deal with this pest.

(e) There are 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in the country under the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine & Storage. These centres conduct pest surveillance of various crops with a view to forewarn farmers. These centres also coordinate with the concerned State Governments in respect of propagation and implementation of Integrated Pest Management. They also conduct IPM training by organizing Farmers Field Schools. Farmers as well as extension functionaries of the State Governments are trained in these Farmers Field Schools. These centres also undertake production of bio-control agents and their distribution to farmers in Farmers Field Schools. The Central Integrated Pest Management Centres located at Bangalore and Nagpur are presently conducting IPM demonstration programmes with a view to increase farmers awareness about IPM practices and their application in sugarcane crop in Karnataka and Maharashtra respectively.

Capacity Building In Environment Planning and Engineering

- *119. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology and other centres of excellence for capacity building in the field of environment planning and engineering;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have sought the active involvement and cooperation of all concerned in environmental protection and abatement of pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Government is collaborating with Indian Institutes of Technology, Laboratories of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research and other Centres of Excellence in the field of environment planning and engineering. The thrust areas of the collaboration are as follows:-

- (i) Water Quality Monitoring and preparation of Detailed Project Reports for abatement of pollution, including river conservation.
- (ii) Fly Ash Management.
- (iii) Mine Planning.
- (iv) Air Quality Modelling.
- (v) Development of Environmental Standards.
- (vi) Hazardous Waste Management.

(c) and (d) Government is involving Academic and Research Institutions, Industry Associations, Non-Governmental Organizations, Public and other Stakeholders in the implementation of strategies for abatement of pollution and environment protection.

[Translation]

Conservation of Lakes

- *120. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of lakes is declining in the country constantly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have chalked out any plan for their conservation;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the targets fixed and the achievements made thereunder; and

(f) the details of lakes taken up/to be taken up under the said plan during 2003-04 alongwith fund allocation, lake-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) The Government of India is implementing the programme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) for conservation and management of various lakes and tanks. The NLCP was initiated in June, 2001. Till 2002-03, projects for conservation of 20 lakes were approved at a total estimated cost of Rs. 72.61 crore. The lakes approved under the programme are Vengaihkere, Kamakshilpya, Nagavara, Jarganahalli, Bellandur & Kotekere in Karnataka, Powai & 9 lakes of Thane in Maharashtra, Mansagar in Rajasthan, Ooty & Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu and Rabindra Sarovar in West Bengal. The work in respect of Powai Lake is nearing completion and the progress of Ooty lake is about 40%.

(f) So far during 2003-04, four lakes of Nanital District (Uttaranchal) have been approved. These are Bhimtal (Rs. 10.74 crore), Naukuchiatal (Rs. 2.32 crore), Sattal (Rs. 1.22 crore) and Khurpatal (Rs. 1.77 crore). The total estimated cost of these projects is Rs. 16.85 crore.

[English]

Demands of Fishermen

933. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have appointed a committee to study the demands of fishermen in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Strengthening of State Farms

934. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any schemes for strengthening of State Farms, established at the cost of Rs. 93 lakh;

(b) if so, the present status of this proposal; and

(c) by when the State Government is likely to receive the sanction and release of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Low Food Production Yield

935. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) has pointed out that the food production yield is likely to be extremely low in forthcoming 20 years; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) has not pointed out that the food production yield is likely to be extremely low in forthcoming 20 years. However, a paper based on research work conducted at the Institute in partial fulfilment of Ph.D programme, by Dr. S. Ravichandran appeared in the journal. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, India (Vol. 72, B (I), pages 37-46, 2002), which projected India's food production to be lower than the estimates of earlier researchers. This basically being a study on modelling needs further validation.

(b) The question does not arise.

Election in Central Warehousing Corporation

936. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Central Warehousing Corporation are not holding secret ballot elections in all regional offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken to hold election through secret ballot system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour had initiated conduct of secret ballot elections for Central Warehousing Corporation in 2001. The process was however stopped because the trade unions and management of the CWC were of the view that the process of verification of membership of unions may be started after completion of negotiation for wage revision.

(c) The process of verification of membership of Unions for conduct of secret ballot will be initiated on receipt of consent of the management and the unions concerned.

[Translation]

Capsizing of Indonesian Cargo-Ship

937. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that an Indonesian Cargo-Ship capsized near Haldia port in West Bengal in May, 2003;

(b) if so, the quantity of soda ash and diesel therein;

(c) the amount of damage caused to environment on account of the capsizing of the ship;

(d) whether the Government have demanded compensation from the port owners against the damages caused to the environment and other losses; and

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir; As per information provided by the Kolkatta Port Trust through the administrative Ministry, the Indonesian cargo ship "MV Segitega Biru", which sank within the Kolkatta/Haldia Port limit on 18th May, 2003, was carrying 5327 tons of soda ash and about 140 tons of fuel. A minor oil pollution noticed on 20th May 2003 by the Kolkatta Port Trust was neutralized by spraying Oil Spill Dispersant (OSD).

(d) and (e) Necessary Notices have been issued to the Owner, Master, Insurer and the Agents by the Kolkatta Port Trust, under Section 14 of the Indian Ports Act. They have also been asked to furnish a Bank Guarantee for a sum of Rs. 50 crores or US\$ 10 millions.

[English]

Setting up of Cashew Board

938. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no institution controlled by the Government to protect the interests of cashew growers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a cashew board for promoting cashew cultivation and production of large quantity of raw cashew in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa Development, Cochin, under the Ministry of Agriculture is providing support for the development of cashew in the country. The National Research Centre for Cashew, Puthur under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is providing research support for the cashew sector. The Cashew Export Promotion Council, Cochin under the Ministry of Commerce is involved in the export of cashewnuts.

(b) and (c) In view of the position explained at (a) above, there is no proposal of the Government to set up a Cashew Board.

Enquiry against ASI Officials

939. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has ordered a departmental inquiry against 11 of its officials working in the Bangalore circle on charges of dereliction of duty, corruption and misappropriation of funds;

(b) if so, whether this follows a recommendation by the Central Bureau of Investigation which after a detailed inquiry found prima facie evidence against these officials;

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against those officers held responsible by the CBI; and

(d) by when the guilty officials are likely to be punished?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against them.

[Translation]

Infrastructure for Agricultural Research and Education

940. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of basic infrastructure provided to Bihar for agricultural research and education;

(b) whether the basic infrastructure provided to the State is sufficient; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to enhance the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research does not provide basic infrastructure to any State, directly. However, the ICAR provides basic infrastructure to its Institutes/National Research Centres/Project Directorates located in various States of the Country. The ICAR also

provides Developmental Grant to Rajendra Agricultural University located in Bihar. The details of ICAR Research Centres are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The basic infrastructure provided in ICAR Research Centres is sufficient.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

The basic Infrastructure has been provided to following ICAR Institutes/Regional Stations Located in Bihar

S.No.	Name of Schemes
1.	ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region
2.	Directorate of Water Management Research
3.	Indian Agricultural Research Institute Regional Station
4.	Sugarcane Breeding Institute Regional Station
5.	Central Tobacco Research Institute Regional Station
6.	NSP (Crops) Centre—Breeder Seed Production
7.	NSP Crops Centre—Seed Technology Research.

OBCs, SCs and STs Employees

941. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees working in the departments and undertakings under the Ministry of Tourism and Culture category-wise; and

(b) the number of employees belonging to Other backward Classes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes separately out of them category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and would be placed on the table of the House.

[English]

Development of Horticulture and Agriculture Projects in W.B.

942. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central funds allocated, released and utilized for Development of Horticulture and Agriculture Projects in West Bengal during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase funds for West Bengal for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of the funds released and utilized by the Government of West Bengal under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of Agriculture and Horticulture during the last three years:

(Rs. in crores)		
Year	Funds Released	Funds Utilised
2000-01	15.95	19.37
2001-02	29.14	20.82
2002-03	24.93	25.60

Funds to the State Government are released on the basis of proposal received from the State, unspent balance lying with the State out of the earlier releases and overall allocation under different Schemes of the Department.

Replacement of Dam Projects in Assam

943. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to replace big dam projects like 2000 MW Sonamsiri Dam Project by small dam project in Assam;

(b) if so, whether the dam is in highly sensitive seismic zone with sedimentary rock formation which may pose serious threat to the dam; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Government have proposed to replace big dam projects namely Subansiri and Dihang by a cascade of smaller dam projects.

(b) and (c) The Project lies in Himalayan Region, which is highly sensitive seismic zone (Zone V) of India. The foundation for one of the projects, i.e. Lower Subansiri Project is weak sedimentary rock having poor rock

characteristics, which require measures to be adopted for strengthening the foundation rock. While clearing the Detailed Project Report, the Central Water Commission has recommended additional investigations before actual construction so as to take care of low rock strength parameters and seismic conditions.

[Translation]

International Flights from Lucknow and Varanasi

944. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have upgraded Varanasi and Lucknow airports into international airports;

(b) if so, the details of international flights operating from these airports;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide more facilities at these airports during the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a): Varanasi and Lucknow airports have been upgraded by Airports Authority of India (AAI) in terms of facilities, but not declared as International airports, at present. Customs and Immigration facilities are also available at Varanasi and Lucknow airports.

(b) Indian Airlines operates Delhi-Lucknow-Sharjah & vice-versa flights two times a week and Air India operates Jeddah-Lucknow-Delhi and vice-versa flights two times a week. Necon Air operates Varanasi-Kathmandu and vice-versa three times a week.

(c) and (d) Following facilities are being provided/upgraded at Lucknow and Varanasi Airports during the current financial year.

(i) Strengthening and extension of runway including provision of Cat.-II lighting system, construction of Technical Block-cum-Control Tower and Expansion of car park at Lucknow airport.

(ii) Extension of runway and construction of Terminal Building at Varanasi airport.

(e) Does not arise.

Cost of Production

945. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any assessment of the cost of production of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the details of average cost of production of the said products in the country during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003; and

(c) the names of States which had maximum and minimum cost of production of the said products during the above mentioned years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, through implementation of "Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India", collects data on cost of cultivation and generates per hectare cost of cultivation and per quintal cost of production of the principal crops on regular basis. Under the Study, the cost of production of Paddy, Wheat, Sugarcane and cotton have been assessed.

(b) Based on the cost estimates of the crops for the previous years provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, the cost of production of the crops for the years 2001-2002 and 2002-03 as has been projected by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices are given as follows:-

S.No.	Name of the Crops	Cost of Production (Rs./Quintal)	
		2001-2002*	2002-2003
1.	Wheat	478.92	483.27
2.	Paddy	471.71	505.16
3.	Sugarcane	52.44	57.89
4.	Cotton	1837.85	1775.04

*Projected.

(c) The names of the States having the maximum and minimum cost of production during the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 are as follows:-

Name of the Crops	States with Maximum cost of production	States with Minimum cost of production
2001-02*		
Wheat	Himachal Pradesh	Haryana
Paddy	Kerala	Uttar Pradesh
Sugarcane	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka
Cotton	Punjab	Gujarat
2002-03*		
Wheat	Madhya Pradesh	Punjab
Paddy	Kerala	Uttar Pradesh
Sugarcane	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka
Cotton	Madhya Pradesh	Gujarat

*Projected.

[English]

Poaching of Migratory Birds

946. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 887 dated February 24, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be collected and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A detailed reply has been submitted for fulfillment of the assurance on the basis of information received. The details are given in the statement enclosed. Action for implementation is taken by the State Governments to prevent such incidents through the protection machinery of the State.

Statement

Detailed information for fulfillment of the assurance for Lok Sabha Unstarred question No. 887 dated 24.2.2003 regarding 'Poaching of Migratory Bird's are as follows:

Q. (a) The details of incidents noticed by the Government regarding serving of rare birds in the local dhabas and restaurants and clubs in the country especially Delhi and other parts including Orissa during the recent past;

A. (a) Even though serving of rare birds in the local dhabas and restaurants of Delhi and other parts of the country is illegal, the occurrence of such incidents cannot be ruled out. Recently one such incident has been reported from Faridabad district of Haryana wherein cooked meat of birds suspected to be partridge was seized. A case in this regard has been filed in the Special Environment Court in Faridabad.

Q. (b) whether the Government are aware that clubs and restaurants near Chilka lake have served the flesh of migratory birds for human consumption in January 2003 as reported in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated January 21, 2003;

Q. (c) if so, whether, the Government have conducted any raids on these hotels, restaurants, club and dhabas;

Q. (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilties; and

A. (b), (c) and (d) The State Government of Orissa has reported that some news items of serving meat of migratory birds in clubs and restaurants near Chilka have come to the notice. However, upon enquiry/raids conducted, no evidences to substantiate the same have been found.

Q. (e) the steps taken by the Government to stop serving of flesh of migratory birds as well as rare birds for human consumption in future?

A. (e) The steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents include:

- (i) Increased vigil is maintained at places where such incidents are likely to occur. Raids are conducted at suspected locations.
- (ii) Hunting of rare birds is banned under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(iii) Crucial habitats of various species of birds have been notified as national parks and sanctuaries. Some of the important wetlands have also been notified as Ramsar Sites and World Natural Heritage Sites.

(iv) Regular patrolling to control poaching of birds is done in forest habitats.

(v) Financial assistance is provided to State Governments for effective protection and management of national parks and sanctuaries.

(vi) Creation of awareness about the importance of conservation of birds.

Cruise between Srikakulam and Nagarjuna Sagar in Andhra Pradesh

947. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to the Union Government to operate a cruise between Srikakulam and Nagarjuna Sagar in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have examined the proposal;

(d) if so, whether this project would be under private sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Professionalism in Indian Airlines

948. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines (IA) sales offices have not adopted proper and gainful commercial practices;

(b) if so, whether the sales offices routinely turn away passengers by giving excuses that tickets have lapsed, or that they cannot be re-routed;

(c) the action proposed to be initiated against the sales offices that adopted such unprofessional attitude; and

(d) the steps being taken to inculcate professionalism in the employees of IA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Indian Airlines is proactive towards its customers. Cases of unprofessional attitude towards the passengers are viewed seriously. Sales Officers of Indian Airlines have been vested with the discretionary powers to extend validity of expired tickets/reroute the tickets as per the laid down rules and procedure. Stringent and prompt action is taken against those responsible for refusing to entertain genuine and valid requests from passengers. Extensive sales training programmes are being conducted with external and internal faculty, at regular intervals, with a view to inculcate a high level of professionalism in the sales staff.

Irrigation Projects of Orissa

949. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of water available on the surface and in the streams in normal rainfall in the KBK districts of Orissa;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any feasibility studies as per the topography of the land to tap waters flowing on the surface and in the streams for construction of major and medium irrigation projects in the KBK districts of Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As reported by the State Government the surface water availability is normally estimated either at Water Resources project site or for river basins. The yield (surface water) at 75 percent dependability generated from the catchment of the rivers Mahanadi, Indravati, Nagavalli, Vamsadhrara and Kolab lying in KBK districts is 23584 million cubic meter.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement Regarding Irrigation Projects of Orissa

Sl. No.	Name of Project	CCA (in Hectare)	District	Classification
1	2	3	4	5
I. Ongoing Irrigation Projects of KBK Districts of Orissa				
1.	Ong Project	30000	Baragarh	Major
2.	Upper Lanth Irrigation Project	4700	Bolangir	Medium
3.	Telengri Irrigation Project	9950	Koraput	Medium
4.	Upper Kolab Extension	12052	Nowrangpur	Major
5.	Upper Indravati Extension Project	25484	Nowrangpur	Major
6.	Ret Irrigation Project	8500	Kalahandi	Medium
II. Irrigation Projects for which Techno-Feasibility Study has been done				
1.	Turi Guntant Irrigation Project	6000	Nowrangpur	Medium

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Upper Udanti Irrigation Project	8000	Naupada	Medium
3.	Lower Nagavalli Irrigation Project	8500	Rayagada	Medium
4.	Surabaliore Irrigation Project	18000	Sonepur	Medium
III. Irrigation Projects under Survey and Investigation for Feasibility Study				
1.	Lower Lanth	21000	Bolangir	Major
2.	Tel Barrage	17300	Bolangir	Major
3.	Raul Utei	2000	Kalahandi and Bolangir	Major
4.	Sandul	3240	Kalahandi	Medium
5.	Banjari	4000	Nowrangpur	Medium
6.	Lower Baskel	9950	Nowrangpur	Medium
7.	Upper Vamsadhara	12000	Rayagada	Major
8.	Upper Nagvalli	5555	Rayagada and Kalahandi	Medium

Use of Sea Water

950. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to save fresh water, use of sea water is encouraged by the Government for industrial purpose;

(b) if so, whether the Government have imposed water cess on use of sea water; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) There is no provision for encouraging use of sea water for industrial purpose in the National Water Policy, 2002. However, use of sea water resources has been identified as one of the areas for intensifying research efforts.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of Tourism

951. CHOWDHARY TALIB HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of revival trend of tourist arrivals in the country particularly in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to develop tourism in the States including Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Centres, Development of Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development and Assistance of Large Revenue Generating Projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country including the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

A package for providing soft loan, capital and interest subsidy to the service providers such as Houseboat owners, Hotels & Guest-house owners, Shikara owners, Ponywallas and tourist transport operators in the Kashmir Valley has been formulated. It has also been decided to take up the following works in Jammu & Kashmir during the current financial year:

1. Restoration/conservation/development of Kheer Bhawani Shrine at Tulmula, Ganderbal, and its environment.
2. Restoration/conservation/development of Shrine Complex at Baba-Rishi Sahib, Tangmarg and its environment.
3. Upgradation of Amarnath Ji Yatra and provision of Shelter units etc.
4. Improvement of tourism circuit—Vaishno Devi-Patnitop-Srinagar-Gulmarg.
5. Improvement of tourism facilities in and around Aishmuquam Shrine, Kashmir.

Bird Hit Cases at Patna

952. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DGCA which monitors the airport and aircraft safety has taken note of frequent bird hit cases at Patna airport;

(b) if so, the details of the steps proposed by the DGCA to tackle the problem at Patna airport; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that abattoirs and other birds-attracting sites are shifted to other places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An Airfield Environment Management Committee has been constituted to identify the sources of bird attraction and take necessary steps for prevention of bird strikes. The major steps envisaged to prevent/reduce bird hits are as under:-

- (i) Grass cutting and checking water logging inside the airport.
- (ii) Scaring and shooting of birds.
- (iii) Wire meshing of hangars.
- (iv) Garbage dumping in covered bins and early removal.
- (v) Regular joint inspection of areas around airport.
- (vi) Establishment of modern abattoirs.

Besides, the Aircraft Act, 1934, has been amended to make disposal of garbage in the open area with 10 Kms. of the airport a cognizable offence. If such activity is observed during joint inspection, it is brought to the notice of local police.

Pepper Production

953. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, the largest pepper producer, has been downgraded in the international market due to its poor quality of pepper as a result of water shortage;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to opt for Research and Development Technology, high quality seeds etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) India is the largest producer of pepper in the world. The higher average f.o.b. prices of pepper at source market (Cochin in India) for ASTA grade black pepper are reflective of the quality of pepper offered in India. The export of pepper has, however, decreased during 2002-2003 due to cheaper supplies from other countries.

(b) and (c) Research in spices is being carried out at Indian Institute of Species Research, Calicut. The institute has identified high quality varieties of pepper with higher oil and oleoresins content. The thrust is given on research on integrated pest, disease and nutrient management to minimize use of toxic chemicals. Biological based formulation for the control of major diseases like foot rot and slow wilt are available in the market. For development of pepper, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Macro Management in Agriculture—Supplementing/Complementing the State Efforts through Work Plans" following programmes are implemented:-

- (i) Production of quality planting materials of high yielding varieties of black pepper and their distribution on subsidized rates to the farmers.
- (ii) Establishment and management of field demonstration plots for popularizing high yielding varieties and also improved cultivation practices.
- (iii) Adoption of integrated pests and disease management practices.

- (iv) Encouraging rejuvenation of old and unproductive gardens.
- (v) Effective transfer of technology.

Polluting Units in Delhi

954. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of polluting units sealed/shifted/closed in Delhi particularly in Tri Nagar during each of the last three years and thereafter;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the State Pollution Control Board has failed to identify the polluting units in the above said area and joined hands with the owners of such units resulting in growth of some new units and re-opening of some old ones thereby causing health problems to the residents by discharging effluents in the air and spreading noise pollution;

(c) if so, the details of the action plan, if any, chalked out to rectify the situation; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that periodical checks are made to stop the growing menace in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report on Fire in Forests

955. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the report 'Forest fires in India' brought out by the Worldwide Fund for nature;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions/recommendations given in this report; and

(d) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. World Wide Fund for Nature India (WWF-India) has published a report during the current year entitled "Fires in India"—Lessons from Case Studies. This report is based on baseline information collected on forest fires from selected localities of eight Indian States. As per this report, almost all forest fires are manmade (intentional or unintentional). Intentional fires ignited by communities are set in the forests for various reasons such as to promote tender growth of herbaceous vegetation, collection of Non Timber forest produce or to propitiate the local deity etc.

(c) and (d) There are no concrete suggestions/recommendations in the report. However, in the conclusion part of the report the need for more information, comprehensive research, early warning and other infrastructural/institutional support has been emphasized so that fire can be utilized as a management tool. It is suggested that the best strategy seems to be to control recurrent fires through all measures that are in our command with community participation. The problems of forest fire in the country is an issue of significance and is being addressed to. Financial assistance is being made available to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry to undertake necessary measures for prevention and control of forest fires. As suggested in the report cooperation of the local people through Joint Forest Management Committees is being solicited in controlling/fighting the forest fires.

[Translation]

Awareness on Harvesting Rain Water

956. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to create awareness among the people for rain water harvesting and prevent the wastage of rain water in view of receding water table; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), under the Ministry of Water Resources organizes mass awareness and training programmes to educate the public about various techniques and benefits of rain water harvesting. The CGWA has organised 135 mass awareness and 69 training programmes upto 31.02.2003 in various parts of the country. During 2003-04, the CGWA has programme to organise 51 mass awareness and 51 training programmes in the country. The CGWA has also launched a website on roof top rain water harvesting (www.cgwaindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about rain water harvesting. In addition, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has also implemented a Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" during IX Plan, to demonstrate suitable recharge structures to augment ground water resources which could be replicated. Under the scheme, 174 recharge projects have been taken up in 27 States/UTs in the country for implementation at an estimated cost of Rs. 35.81 crore. The CGWB has also provided design for rain water harvesting system at about 1350 locations throughout the country.

[English]

Excavation by ASI

957. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India propose to undertake any projects for excavation to discover Indian cultural heritage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has identified so far the sites of Adi Badri, Kapalmochan-Rinmochan, Thanesar, Sandhali, Kunal and Rakhigarhi (all in Haryana), Hanumangarh, Pilibangan, Badopal and Baror (all in Rajasthan) and Dholavira (Gujarat) for excavation for the season 2003-2004 under the project of a multi-disciplinary study of the Sarasvati river and its basin. In addition, the other sites selected for excavation during the present Plan period include Warangal Fort (Andhra Pradesh), Talatalghar (Karenghar) at Sivsagar (Assam), Bhimbelka (Madhya Pradesh), Daultabad (Maharashtra), Langudi Hill (Orissa), Arikamedu (Pondicherry), the Ruined Palace of Maharana Pratap at Chavand (Rajasthan), Boxanagar (Tripura), Residency Complex at Lucknow, Lachhagir (Uttar Pradesh). The

programmes that are chalked out also comprise underwater investigation offshore Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu) and Shipwreck off Bangaram Island in Lakshadweep.

India on World Tourism Map

958. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)-2003 has forecast that India could find a permanent berth for itself in the world tourism map if visa-on-arrival scheme was introduced;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to relax visa scheme, provide better air access and develop more airports to bring India into the group of countries that mattered as far as tourism is concerned; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Visa on arrival is one of the measures suggested by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) to improve tourism flows to India.

(b) and (c) The visa on arrival is not being introduced at present due to current security environment. To improve air connectivity and increase seat capacity, bilateral talks for aviation rights between countries are held from time to time.

Sea Wall at Karnataka Sea Coast

959. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received a proposal from Government of Karnataka to provide 136 crore for the construction of a permanent sea wall along the sea coast of Karnataka to protect the land from sea erosion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that Karnataka has decided to construct a 1.5 k.m. Sea Wall at Ullal in the State with the assistance of French Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal, amounting to Rs. 135.95 crore has been received in the March, 2002 from Government of Karnataka for protection of vulnerable coastal areas from sea erosion and the same has been included in the proposed Phase-I of National Coastal Protection Project (NCCP).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Government is interested to take up a pilot project for 1.5 kilometre reach at Ullal beach near Mangalore at a cost of Rs. 6.375 crore with the assistance of French Government.

[Translation]

Flood Control

960. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern States of the country are badly affected by floods during the current year also;

(b) if so, the schemes which have so far been implemented by the Union Government to tackle the situation; and

(c) the funds allocated/released by the Union Government to the State Governments for the purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No Sir. As per available information none of the Northern States of the country are badly affected by floods during the current year. However, a cloudburst occurred on 16th July 2003 at Shilagarh in Kulu Sub Division in Himachal Pradesh in which 21 persons are reported to have lost their lives. Rescue and relief works were undertaken by the State Government.

(b) and (c) As per the Scheme for financing the relief expenditure in the wake of natural calamities, the State Governments are required to meet the expenditure on relief operations out of allocated Corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is contributed by Government of India and state Governments in the ratio of 3:1. When the calamity is of a severe nature and the CRF is not sufficient, the Central Government gives assistance to States out of the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), after following the established procedure. No request seeking financial assistance from NCCF has been received in this regard.

[English]

Illegal Ivory Trade

961. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Ivory trade in India is still flourishing inspite of the ban;

(b) if so, whether a survey conducted by TRAFFIC India run by WWF and World Conservation Union has found that Orissa, Assam and U.P. are among the most active centres for illegal Ivory trade; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to stop illegal trade in Ivory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has taken many steps for curbing illegal trade in ivory as under:

1. The Indian elephant has been included under Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 which prohibits its hunting and commercial trade.
2. Domestic trade in ivory of all kinds has been prohibited.
3. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended in 2002 for enhancing penalties and forfeiting the property of the offenders convicted for indulging in illegal wildlife trade relating to animals and animals articles derived from animals under Schedule I and part II of Schedule II of the Act.
4. The Central Government has banned import and export of ivory from the country.
5. The Government of India receives international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in elephants and their ivory.
6. The Central Government has empowered the C.B.I. under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute the wildlife offenders.

7. A Special Co-ordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.
8. The Central Government of India provides financial assistance to the major elephant-bearing states under Project Elephant for strengthening protection measures.
9. The Government of India has identified 26 Elephant Reserves in the country with a view to provide systematic and focused management of viable elephant ranges. Of these, 19 Elephant Reserves have since been notified by the state governments.

[Translation]

Discharge of Effluents into Rihand Dam Reservoir

962. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the industrial effluents of the National Thermal Power Corporation and the HINDALCO factory, Sonbhadra (U.P.) is being discharged into the reservoir of the Rihand dam and thereby affecting the environment; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Condenser cooling water and ash pond effluents from Singrauli, Rihand and Vindhychal power plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) located in Singrauli region after treatment are discharged into the Rihand reservoir. Effluents from Aluminium plant of HINDALCO located in the same region are discharged into the Rihand river down stream of the reservoir. These units have provided the requisite pollution control facilities for treating waste water.

(b) An Action plan has been prepared for Singrauli region and the industries have been asked to take steps for preventing pollution of the Rihand reservoir and the river.

Smuggling of Idols

963. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the alleged links between some persons from Bollywood and the idol smugglers;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Central Bureau of Investigation has informed that during the last five years, in none of the cases of their concerned branch, links between some Bollywood Stars and idol theft have come to their notice.

[English]

Tiger Population

964. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of Indian and American Scientists have in their recent report commented upon the approach of collecting data regarding the tiger population in the country which led to poor conservation practices and doubtful assessment of the tiger population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) A paper on monitoring of tiger population in India co-authored by nine persons, which includes scientists and non-scientists, has appeared in an international journal recently. The paper criticizes the time tested, field friendly, cost efficient, methodology in vogue for tiger estimation in the country which is unparalleled in the world, and advocates an alternative sampling based costlier method not feasible for a country level estimation in diverse habitats. The density of tigers in most of the tiger habitats is low or moderate, hence, it is not feasible to adopt a universal statistical design for estimating a territorial animal like tiger at the national level. The methodology being followed is capable of giving reliable results which meet the needs of the field management for conservation of the species. The Project Tiger Directorate has taken initiatives for evolving a "Tiger Habitat and Population Evaluation System" with the following objectives:

- (1) Assessment of the habitat and status of tigers in the country.
- (2) Developing appropriate (site specific) census and monitoring protocols.
- (3) Developing spatial, aspatial models and database for risk assessment and persistence of existing tiger populations.
- (4) Collation, analysis, storage, updation and dissemination of this information to decision makers and field managers.
- (5) Disseminating the census, habitat evaluation and monitoring techniques to field personnel by conducting regional training workshops and preparing manuals.

[Translation]

Flights for Sholapur and Osmanabad

965. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce air services for Sholapur and Osmanabad in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of domestic airports/airstrips proposed to be constructed/upgraded for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce air services to Sholapur and Osmanabad in Maharashtra.

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

Seed and Fertilizer for Farmers

966. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers are getting seeds and fertilizers at higher rates on Government outlets in Chhattisgarh whereas it is cheaper on private shops;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No case of seeds being sold in Chhattisgarh at Government outlets at prices higher than those prevailing at private outlets has come to the notice of Chhattisgarh Government and Government of India. No case of fertilizers being sold in Chhattisgarh at prices higher than Maximum Retail Price fixed by Government of India has come to the notice of Chhattisgarh Government and Government of India.

- (b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Compulsory Retirement of Group 'C' in EPFO

967. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the process of compulsory retirement of Group 'C' employees of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been started and notices served on some Group 'C' employees contrary to the provision of F.R. 56 (L);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to stop such action which is contrary to rules;
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Strike by ESI's Doctors

968. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the doctors working in the ESI hospitals and dispensaries in Delhi had staged a dharna on July 8, 2003;

(b) if so, the main demands raised by them;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision on their demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) A few doctors of ESI Corporation working in Delhi had staged a dharna on 8.7.2003.

(b) The doctors are primarily demanding parity in career advancement with Central Health Services doctors.

(c) and (d) The matter has been referred for conciliation proceedings to the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

[*Translation*]

Funds for Agricultural Schemes in Himachal Pradesh

969. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state to the funds sanctioned/allocated/released by the Union Government to the Himachal Pradesh Government for the three schemes undertaken by the Ministry in the State during the last two years and proposed in the next two years separately viz. River Valley Projects and Soil Conservation (RVPS) and for increasing the fertility of affected land in water catchment areas of the Flood-Prone Rivers (FPR) and for Reclamation of Alkaline Soil (RAS) and National Watershed Development Project for rain-fed areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Programmes namely, Soil Conservation for Enhancing the Productivity of Degraded Land in the Catchments of River Valley Project and flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) and National Watershed development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPR) in most of the States including the State of Himachal Pradesh.

From November, 2000 these programmes have been subsumed under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

The funds are allocated by Ministry of Agriculture to State Governments based on past utilization and overall availability of funds under MMA. The State Governments further allocate funds to different programmes and prepare Annual Work Plan (AWP). After finalization of AWP, funds are released to State Governments. State Governments further release funds to respective programme implementing Departments.

The status of fund allocations and releases to Himachal Pradesh under MMA during 2001-02 to 2004-2005 are:

(Rupees in Lakh)		
Year	Funds allocated	Funds released
2001-02	1800.00	1800.00
2002-03	1600.00	1600.00
2003-04	1600.00	800.00 (First installment)
2004-05	1700.00 (tentative)	

The funds provided by the State of Himachal Pradesh out of Macro Management of Agriculture for RVP&FPR and NWDPR for last two years and proposed allocations for 2003-04 are:-

(Rupees in Lakh)		
Year	RVP & FPR	NWDPR
2001-02	509.23	232.99
2002-03	520.34	48.97
2003-04	703.00	143.00
2004-05	To be proposed by State Government.	

The State Government has not submitted any proposal for seeking Central assistance for Reclamation of Alkali Soils (RAS).

[*English*]

Under Utilisation of Code Share Capacity

970. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has suffered losses of Rs. 31.15 crores due to under utilisation of code share capacity and non-payment of dues by International airlines including Sri Lankan Airlines and Pakistan International Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The code share capacity entitlements do not entail any cost but to the extent utilized, generate additional revenue to Indian Airlines. The extent of utilization of code share capacity depends on traffic demand and operating carrier's network etc. There also exist bilateral/business arrangements in other areas between Indian Airlines and International Airlines for which invoices are exchanged and settlement is made through IATA clearing house or locally as the case may be on a regular basis. In the course of these transactions, there arise a few cases of dues remaining unpaid for some dispute/clarification/supporting documents requirement etc. All such cases are reviewed and efforts are made to resolve through mutual discussions either at local representative level or if necessary by taking up the matter at corporate level. The amount of such disputed invoices at any point of time is generally a small proportion to the total volume of transactions and the amount of revenue earned by Indian Airlines from these transactions.

Allocation for Agriculture

971. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sectoral composition of plan expenditure in the last two decades reveals that the allocation for agriculture has shown a downward trend for most of the bigger agricultural states;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline registered in the share of plan expenditure on agriculture in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh during 1980-81 to 1999-2002; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to correct the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Yamuna Cleaning Campaign

972. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three day campaign to clean Yamuna in Delhi was undertaken recently;

(b) if so, the extent of success achieved thereunder; and

(c) the amount spent thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Yamuna cleaning campaign was launched for 3 days from 2nd to 4th June, 2003 at six locations on both the embankments of river Yamuna in Delhi with the participation of various stakeholders. About 40 truckload of waste material was lifted from the embankments of river and disposed in the landfill sites. Mass tree plantation was also done at a place called Garhimandu.

(c) No amount has been spent by the Government of NCT of Delhi since the campaign was a voluntary effort.

'Palace on Wheels' in Kerala

973. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run a train 'Palace on Wheels' in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the train is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Unused Airstrips

974. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of airstrips lying unused as on date alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the total amount of money locked up in respect of these idle airports;

(c) whether the Government are taking any effective steps to use these air strips;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to realise the depreciated assets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The airstrips at Akola, Bellurghat, Behala, Bilaspur, CoochBehar, Cudappah, Deesa, Jhansi, Jharsuguda, Kailashahar, Kamaipur, Lalitpur, Muzaffarpur, Satna, Sholapur and Warrangal are lying unused at present due to non-commitment of any schedule airline for operations.

The airstrips at Aizwal, Asansol, Chakulia, Donakonda, Hassan, Hadapsar, Jogbani, Khandwa, Khowai, Malda, Mysore, Panna, Passighat, Raxaul, Rupsi, Shella and Vellore are non-operational because these airstrips are unfit for operations.

(b) Rs. 369.74 lakhs.

(c) and (d) Utilization of unused airstrips depends totally upon the traffic available at these places for commencing air operations. Due to absence of sufficient air traffic, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has no plans, at present, to make these airstrips operational.

(e) The unused airstrips were transferred to AAI under the AAI Act. As such, AAI has no powers to sell these airstrips for non-aviation activities.

[*Translation*]

Eradication of Child Labour

975. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any target to eradicate child labour by 2007;

(b) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve this target; and

(c) the number of cases of child labour reported to the Government during last three years and thereafter till date and the action taken thereon, year-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Tenth Plan strategy for elimination of Child Labour provides for elimination of Child Labour from hazardous occupations and processes by the end of the Tenth Plan.

(b) The strategy for eliminations of child labour adopted during the Ninth Plan would be continued during the Tenth Plan. However, during the Tenth Plan period, the child labour elimination programmes would be implemented in a more focused, integrated, expanded and coordinated manner.

(c) On the basis of information received from the State Governments/UTs during the last three years (i.e. 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-02), 3,41,979 inspections were conducted resulting in 4,490 prosecutions and 1,363 convictions.

[*English*]

Assessment of Rainfall

976. COL. (RETD). SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:
SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed annual rainfall in various States, especially drought prone States, during the last three years;

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

(c) the contingency plan the Government propose to make to overcome the situation; and

(d) the funds allocated/released to each State Government for development of infrastructure to harvest rain water, during the last Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of annual rainfall assessed in various States, State-wise and year-wise are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of drought. However, assistance is provided by Central Government under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). Ministry of Water Resources has advised State Governments to make judicious use of water available in the reservoirs giving priority to drinking water supply. States have also been advised to take over exploratory wells drilled by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) for enhancing their water supply. CGWB has handed over 4000 wells to various State Governments.

A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources has been set up to help the drought affected States to tide over the acute water scarcity. Chief Secretaries of the concerned 18 drought affected States and Union Secretaries of Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Urban Development, Finance, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Chairman, Central Water Commission; Chairman, Central Ground Water Board; Member (Traffic), Railway Board; Director General,

Geological Survey of India; and Director General, India Meteorological Department are members of the Task Force. Two meetings of the Task Force have been held. In the first meeting of the Task Force, measures to meet the water shortage in various States were discussed. The additional Central assistance which could be provided to the States and the various schemes of the different Ministries under which they could seek the Central assistance especially the assistance under 5% of the funds allocated under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) to meet contingency arising out of natural calamities and other emergent situations were intimated. In the second meeting of the Task Force, the drought affected States were requested to adopt rain water harvesting and water conservation techniques in order to utilize rainfall during the current monsoon. Stress was also laid for doing water budgeting by State Governments are making judicious use of available water.

(d) The approved outlay for irrigation in respect of each State during the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) is given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement I

State-wise Rainfall Distribution

Sl.No.	State/UT	2000 Annual		2001 Annual		2002 Annual	
		Actual (mm)	%Dep from normal	Actual (mm)	%Dep from normal	Actual (mm)	%Dep from normal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	A&N Island (UT)	2386.2	-20%	2935.1	0%	2310.7	-22%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2762.0	-3%	2199.9	-23%	2559.6	-23%
3.	Assam	2656.1	-4%	2048.2	-21%	2132.4	-15%
4.	Meghalaya	3069.7	6%	3954.0	-5%	4992.3	-26%
5.	Nagaland	1626.6	-19%	1446.8	-28%	1408.9	-30%
6.	Manipur	1315.1	2%	1233.3	-7%	1417.5	3%
7.	Mizoram	2567.4	-1%	2694.3	4%	2546.3	-3%
8.	Tripura	2484.4	12%	2476.8	12%	2246.9	-3%
9.	Sikkim	2705.7	-29%	2904.9	-23%	2914.2	14%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	West Bengal	1879.5	7%	1795.3	4%	1778.1	-1%
11.	Orissa	1163.0	-22%	1777.4	19%	1166.6	-18%
12.	Jharkhand	1369.8	4%	1410.8	8%	1184.6	-1%
13.	Bihar	1313.7	11%	1368.4	16%	1324.2	3%
14.	Uttar Pradesh	953.2	-2%	895.0	-8%	769.4	-20%
15.	Uttaranchal	1935.4	16%	1479.4	-11%	1588.5	0%
16.	Haryana	498.5	-14%	597.2	3%	432.6	-30%
17.	Chandigarh (UT)	1136.8	7%	953.2	-10%	1010.0	-5%
18.	Delhi	589.6	-19%	600.0	-17%	555.6	-21%
19.	Punjab	544.3	-16%	634.3	-2%	446.1	-31%
20.	Himachal Pradesh	1111.8	-17%	1102.7	-18%	1075.5	-20%
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	828.3	-22%	795.4	-26%	750.5	-19%
22.	Rajasthan	337.5	-28%	416.9	-11%	199.8	-59%
23.	Madhya Pradesh	659.9	-39%	938.7	-13%	895.9	-19%
24.	Chhattisgarh	952.7	-29%	1435.2	7%	1043.4	-20%
25.	Gujarat	481.5	-38%	709.2	-8%	544.4	-32%
26.	DNH & Daman (UTs)	-	-	1930.9	-13%	1655.0	-25%
27.	Diu (UT)	356.0	-43%	-	-	-	-
28.	Goa	3558.1	12%	2365.7	-25%	2373.3	-28%
29.	Maharashtra	10665.7	-5%	10453.3	-7%	1034.8	-18%
30.	Andhra Pradesh	1010.6	11%	939.4	3%	698.6	-24%
31.	Tamil Nadu	857.5	-12%	778.5	-20%	741.2	-24%
32.	Pondicherry (UT)	1224.4	-11%	940.1	-32%	992.9	-28%
33.	Karnataka	1260.0	8%	1049.5	-10%	939.2	-27%
34.	Kerala	2465.8	-21%	2913.9	-6%	2457.3	-14%
35.	Lakshadweep	1372.7	-8%	1383.7	-7%	1034.4	-34%

Statement II*Approved Outlay for Irrigation during IX Plan (1997-2002)*

Sl.No.	States	Outlay in Rs. Crore			
		M&M	MI	CAD	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5027.16	775.73	76.50	5879.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.30	202.48	5.65	210.43
3.	Assam	135.12	429.99	25.07	590.18
4.	Bihar	1450.00	725.00	125.00	2300.00
5.	Goa	237.02	27.31	7.31	271.64
6.	Gujarat	7358.00	963.55	50.00	8371.55
7.	Haryana	1372.43	172.13	68.22	1612.78
8.	Himachal Pradesh	35.00	196.55	7.30	238.85
9.	J&K	183.00	156.00	23.50	362.50
10.	Karnataka	5500.00	500.00	120.00	6120.00
11.	Kerala	650.00	250.00	40.00	940.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1915.76	782.90	18.69	2717.35
13.	Maharashtra	8969.08	1568.56	388.46	10926.10
14.	Manipur	222.00	44.00	12.60	278.60
15.	Meghalaya	15.00	60.00	5.00	80.00
16.	Mizoram	0.40	17.52	0.19	18.11
17.	Nagaland	9.85	40.28	1.50	51.63
18.	Orissa	3084.76	267.32	16.50	3368.58
19.	Punjab	238.25	252.83	384.47	875.54
20.	Rajasthan	1855.54	196.30	422.86	2474.70
21.	Sikkim	0.00	10.00	1.00	11.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	1000.00	357.65	90.00	1447.65
23.	Tripura	60.55	105.36	0.10	166.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2600.12	490.00	120.00	3210.12
25.	West Bengal	710.93	347.87	16.33	1075.13
Total-States		42632.27	8939.32	2026.25	53597.84
Total-UTs		6.10	45.52	1.04	52.66
Total States+UTs		42638.37	8984.84	2027.29	53650.50

Water Disputes

977. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU:
SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has charged the Karnataka Government for violating the agreements on Water Dispute;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has complained that the approach of Central Water Commission was not neutral while sanctioning projects to Karnataka;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to intervene and resolve the matter between the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) According to Andhra Pradesh Government, the Karnataka Government has violated the Existing Agreements on water.

(b) According to Andhra Pradesh, techno-economic clearance accorded to Upper Tunga project of Karnataka by Central Water Commission is in violation of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal's decision.

(c) and (d) An inter-State meeting chaired by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) was held on 27.6.2003 which was attended by Secretaries and Technical officers of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to discuss inter-state concerns of both the States in respect of projects like Paragodu and Upper Tunga besides other projects. Summing up the discussion, Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) stated that the Paragodu project as proposed by Government of Karnataka and reiterated by them at the meeting with written response to the concerns of Andhra Pradesh Government is a drinking water supply project and its parameters are required to follow the existing national norms for drinking water supply projects. In so far as Upper Tunga is concerned, CWC would look into arithmetical errors, if any, in the computation of water availability for this project.

*[Translation]***Promotion of Contract Farming**

978. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to mechanise farming by promoting contract farming;

(b) if so, whether lesser number of labourers will be required in mechanized farming;

(c) the social and financial benefits likely to accrue by this method of farming;

(d) the name of the States where contract farming has been started;

(e) whether the entry of several multinational companies in agriculture sector has become easy after the promotion of the contract farming in the country;

(f) if so, the names of the multinational companies entered in this field so far; and

(g) the areas of land which has been taken under the contract farming so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The labour requirement depends upon the degree of mechanization and the practices adopted in production of different crops.

(c) Mechanisation entails reduction in the drudgery associated with various agricultural operations and higher return to the farmers besides conservation of resources.

(d) to (g) Contract farming has been initiated in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh. As no specific programme for promotion of contract farming has been initiated, it is too early to say that it has become easier for multinational companies to enter the agriculture sector. However, some of the companies such as Monsanto, Advanta, Novartis, Pro-

Agro, Spic PHI, Global Green, Rellies, HLL, Koleran India Ltd, Inter-Garden, Pepsi, Nestle have made entry in this field. The available information indicate that about 12630 ha. Areas has been brought under contract farming for various agricultural commodities.

[English]

Study on Cleaning of Rivers

979. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been undertaken with regard to cleaning of peninsular rivers of the country during the last five years as well as current year till date by different agencies/departments/institutes;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government on each of the reports submitted by them;

(d) the achievements made in clearing up the peninsular rivers so far; and

(e) the names of cities which have been benefited during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) No particular study has been undertaken with regard to cleaning of peninsular rivers. However, based on the project reports submitted by the State Governments, pollution abatement works have been undertaken in 38 towns along polluted stretches of 12 peninsular rivers spread over 7 States. The riverwise, Statewise and townwise details are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

No.	River/Town	State No.	State	Sanctioned Cost (Till 06/2003)	No. of Projects Sanctioned	No. of Projects Completed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Narmada						
1.	Jabalpur	1	Madhya Pradesh	133.85	4	2
	Sub Total			133.85	4	2
II. Tapti						
2.	Burhanpur		Madhya Pradesh	194.36	5	4
	Sub Total			194.36	5	4
III. Mahanadi						
3.	Cuttack	2.	Orissa	684.40	3	1
	Sub Total			684.40	3	1
IV. Brahamini						
4.	Chandbali		Orissa	0.00	0	0
5.	Dharamshala		Orissa	0.00	0	0
6.	Talcher		Orissa	0.00	0	0
	Sub Total			0.00	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
V. Subarnarekha						
7.	Ghatshila	3	Jharkhand	68.02	3	0
8.	Jamshedpur		Jharkhand	174.52	3	0
9.	Ranchi		Jharkhand	133.07	3	0
	Sub Total			375.61	9	0
VI. Godavari						
10.	Bhadrachalam	4	Andhra Pradesh	200.70	4	2
11.	Mancharial		Andhra Pradesh	231.30	5	1
12.	Nanded	5	Maharashtra	1293.18	2	0
13.	Nasik		Maharashtra	6201.76	7	4
14.	Rajamundry		Andhra Pradesh	2178.60	5	2
15.	Trimbakeshwar		Maharashtra	1164.00	9	0
16.	Ramagundam		Andhra Pradesh	574.55	7	1
	Sub Total			11844.09	39	10
VII. Wainganga						
17.	Chapara		Madhya Pradesh	39.85	5	5
18.	Keolari		Madhya Pradesh	36.16	5	4
19.	Seoni		Madhya Pradesh	25.10	3	3
	Sub Total			101.12	13	12
VIII. Krishna						
20.	Karad		Maharashtra	318.72	2	0
21.	Sangli		Maharashtra	295.89	1	0
	Sub Total			614.61	3	0
IX. Musi						
22.	Hyderabad		Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0	0
	Sub Total			0.00	0	0
X. Tungabhadra						
23.	Davanagere	6	Karnataka	404.19	5	3
24.	Harihara		Karnataka	236.87	4	2
	Sub Total			641.07	9	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
XI.	Cauvery					
25.	Bhawani	7	Tamil Nadu	128.25	5	2
26.	Erore		Tamil Nadu	1136.63	8	3
27.	K.R. Nagar		Karnataka	42.17	5	0
28.	Kollegal		Karnataka	55.82	2	0
29.	Kumarapalayam		Tamil Nadu	232.14	5	3
30.	Nanjagud		Karnataka	126.49	3	1
31.	Palli Palayam		Tamil Nadu	184.67	4	3
32.	Karur		Tamil Nadu	2764.32	1	0
33.	Kumbakonam		Tamil Nadu	3166.19	2	0
34.	Myladuthurai		Tamil Nadu	3963.17	1	0
35.	Tiruchirappalli		Tamil Nadu	11667.00	1	0
36.	Sri Rangapatna		Karnataka	138.51	4	0
37.	Trichy		Tamil Nadu	377.63	7	6
	Sub Total			23983.00	48	18
XII	Vaigai					
38.	Madurai		Tamil Nadu	11277.85	2	0
	Sub Total:			11277.85	2	0
Total (Peninsular River)				49849.96	135	52

**Declaration of Tourist Spots as
National Tourist Centres**

980. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of tourist spots declared as National Tourist Centres in the country, State-wise:

(b) the financial assistance given by the Union Government to the State Governments for the development of these spots during the last three years and proposed for the current financial year; and

(c) the amount released and utilized by the State Governments so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There is no system to declare any place as a National Tourist Centre.

(b) and (c) Places for tourism projects are identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. State-wise details of projects sanctioned during the last three years by the Tourism Department are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement*State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03**(Rs. in Lakhs)*

S.No.	State/UT	2000-01			2001-02			2002-03		
		No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	299.50	228.50	6	167.85	129.76	2	507.50	195.00
2.	Assam	12	338.35	134.47	7	397.50	195.68	9	768.13	618.85
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	49.75	17.50	14	321.90	205.88	5	41.30	32.50
4.	Bihar	13	324.48	148.52	1	1.35	1.35	8	505.090	505.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	120.28	37.25	3	35.00	23.50	9	308.00	98.00
6.	Goa	10	93.30	29.90	9	93.73	49.85	1	0.05	0.50
7.	Gujarat	18	469.20	155.62	11	305.50	120.30	2	197.12	59.13
8.	Haryana	6	123.31	74.75	7	125.44	82.89	8	332.25	311.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19	397.29	246.75	12	157.64	78.95	30	779.32	760.38
10.	J&K	12	474.93	328.63	3	65.50	60.95	3	94.38	89.47
11.	Jharkhand	6	206.49	115.14	2	80.00	24.00	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	19	489.30	295.66	8	254.76	166.99	6	902.49	625.49
13.	Kerala	14	717.60	471.44	11	680.08	356.62	11	861.36	829.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12	262.33	91.14	11	256.37	105.44	18	711.18	574.79
15.	Maharashtra	10	282.69	97.40	10	1128.20	965.91	8	623.46	546.25
16.	Manipur	18	782.77	234.92	0	0	0.00	2	5.24	2.62
17.	Meghalaya	5	105.59	46.10	5	87.87	36.95	3	70.35	21.20
18.	Mizoram	14	311.19	265.73	6	73.25	44.20	6	141.16	48.46
19.	Nagaland	8	156.53	95.95	5	41.54	22.70	5	360.50	323.43
20.	Orissa	4	156.94	65.52	4	38.05	28.82	2	47.50	15.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21.	Punjab	6	203.50	61.33	3	17.50	12.34	3	23.00	14.60
22.	Rajasthan	22	454.96	253.71	2	5.00	2.50	13	1098.70	1096.20
23.	Sikkim	31	368.62	267.63	5	108.83	68.70	13	346.24	269.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	9	122.83	48.82	20	533.67	167.26	5	559.00	316.10
25.	Tripura	12	333.23	166.09	5	114.40	64.87	5	295.00	295.00
26.	Uttaranchal	7	70.19	33.53	3	65.51	40.79	3	548.00	418.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18	423.74	182.66	5	55.74	46.87	3	295.00	295.00
28.	West Bengal	23	432.99	311.03	17	222.85	98.63	5	201.10	60.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	1.78	0.89	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	5	22.13	16.14	2	8.00	7.12	3	7.75	6.63
31.	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	1	8.00	2.40	1	3.70	1.85	2	8.07	6.46
32.	Delhi	2	17.70	9.99	6	55.01	37.30	14	504.00	449.02
33.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0.00	1	5.00	1.50	3	49.50	16.90
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0.00	1	17.00	5.19	9	9	9
35.	Pondicherry	3	26.18	9.09	3	78.61	55.98	2	7.87	6.30
Total		363	8647.67	4544.20	209	5609.35	3311.55	212	11121.10	8680.93

Market Share of IA

981. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the market share of Indian Airlines has eroded since January 2003;

(b) if so, comparative share of Indian Airlines and other major private airlines carriers in the matter of passenger traffic and revenue; and

(c) the comparative figure of the same period for the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The comparison of market share of Indian Airlines in

respect of passengers carried with private scheduled airlines viz. Jet Airways and Sahara Airlines from January to June, 2003 along with comparative figures for the same period in 2002 is as follows:-

Period	Market Share (%)		
	Indian Airlines	Jet Airways	Sahara Airlines
January, 2003 to June, 2003	39.7	49.3	11.0
January, 2002 to June, 2002	43.1	49.7	7.2

As regards comparison of revenue is concerned, no data is maintained in respect of private airlines. However, the details of passenger revenue in Indian Airlines

including Alliance Air during the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 (upto June, 2003) are as under:-

Period	Revenue (in crores)
2002-03 (RE)	3793.35
2002-04 (Estimated) (April to June, 2003)	1061.78

Water Shortage

982. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas affected by water shortage in the country badly;

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

(c) the long term plans to prevent water shortage in these areas in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of the studies, carried out by Central Water Commission, covering 99 districts in 14 States in the country, an area of 51.13 million hectare lying in 315 Talukas of 74 district has been identified as drought prone

area which are affected by water shortage in the country badly. The Statement showing the details of these areas is enclosed.

(c) Water, being a State subject, water resources schemes are formulated, investigated, implemented and funded by the concerned State Government. Government of India is providing central loan assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 to help the State Governments in their efforts to harness rain water and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by speedy completion of certain selected ongoing schemes.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis.

As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking of various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins/areas.

Statement

Details of Drought Prone Areas

Sl. No.	State/District	No. of Talukas	Area of the District (sq. km)	As per CWC's study	
				No. of Talukas affected by drought	Area affected by drought (sq. km)
1	2	3	4	5	6
I.	Andhra Pradesh	79	125113.03	19	32839.51
	1. Anantpur	11	19134.90	5	10455.80
	2. Chittoor	11	15143.10	—	—
	3. Cuddapah	9	15372.90	1	1473.70
	4. Hyderabad	9	7762.49	3	3157.90

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Kurnool	11	17600.40	2	3825.97
6.	Mahbubnagar	12	18472.00	3	4285.00
7.	Nalgonda	7	14223.24	1	1772.05
8.	Prakasam	9	17404.00	4	7869.00
II.	Jharkhand	15	43384.50	-	-
9.	Munger	4	7884.50	-	-
III.	BIHAR				
10.	Nawada	1	2494.00	-	-
11.	Palamau	3	12019.90	-	-
12.	Rohtas	2	7199.70	-	-
13.	Bhojpur	2	3971.10	-	-
14.	Aurangabad	1	3305.00	-	-
15.	Gaya	2	6510.30	-	-
IV.	Gujarat	124	121238.90	103	106818.40
16.	Ahmedabad	7	8565.90	5	7530.30
17.	Amreli	10	6711.40	10	6711.40
18.	Banaskantha	11	12404.30	9	11018.10
19.	Bhavnagar	12	9786.30	12	9786.30
20.	Bharuch	11	7805.70	11	7805.70
21.	Jamnagar	10	10143.00	10	10143.00
22.	Kheda	10	6888.10	3	2407.00
23.	Kachchh	9	19476.50	9	19476.50
24.	Mehsana	11	9011.80	3	2803.50
25.	Panchmahals	11	8849.80	10	7975.10
26.	Rajkot	13	11152.30	12	10667.70
27.	Surendranagar	9	10443.80	9	10443.80

1	2	3	4	5	6
V.	Haryana	15	16587.85	8	8338.50
	28. Bhiwani	4	4657.38	4	4657.38
	29. Gurgaon	5	4862.80	2	1462.44
	30. Mahendragarh	3	3221.67	2	2218.68
	31. Rohtak	3	3846.00	-	-
VI.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	15999.30	2	2407.60
	32. Doda	4	11691.00	-	-
	33. Udhampur	4	4308.30	2	2407.60
VII.	Karnataka	139	152163.33	42	57645.54
	34. Bangalore	11	7949.50	-	-
	35. Belgaum	10	13460.80	1	1996.00
	36. Bellary	8	9548.50	3	3994.30
	37. Bijapur	11	17092.83	7	12477.44
	38. Chikmagalur	7	7222.00	1	804.80
	39. Chitradurga	9	10754.50	5	7477.50
	40. Dharwad	17	13480.10	3	2772.32
	41. Gulbarga	10	16167.80	5	8131.00
	42. Hasan	8	6833.30	1	1277.80
	43. Kolar	11	8215.20	4	3444.70
	44. Mandya	7	4961.00	1	1034.70
	45. Mysore	11	11947.00	1	1235.90
	46. Raichur	9	13972.40	4	6347.60
	47. Tumkur	10	10557.70	6	6651.90
VIII.	Madhya Pradesh	47	87219.52	26	37307.93
	48. Betul	3	7062.90	-	-
	49. Datia	2	2034.00	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
	50. Dewas	5	6723.50	3	4219.00
	51. Dhar	5	8195.41	4	6287.00
	52. Jhabua	5	6792.80	5	6792.80
	53. Khandwa	3	6379.60	1	1865.00
	54. Khargone	8	13490.00	5	6955.37
	55. Shahdol	4	13860.06	—	—
	56. Shajapur	4	6178.00	3	4533.07
	57. Sidhi	3	10390.75	1	3768.49
	58. Ujjain	5	6112.50	4	4887.20
IX.	Maharashtra	100	123767.05	45	57664.70
	59. Ahmednagar	13	16762.20	7	9491.80
	60. Aurangabad	12	16385.00	2	3111.30
	61. Bir	7	11169.00	3	4595.00
	62. Nasik	13	15631.50	7	8098.90
	63. Osmanabad	11	14027.00	7	9515.00
	64. Pune	14	15688.20	4	4932.10
	65. Sangli	8	8610.25	5	5939.66
	66. Satara	11	10436.90	4	3878.50
	67. Solapur	11	15057.00	6	8102.50
X.	Orissa	6	22862.41	1	2002.07
	68. Phulbani	3	11090.41	1	2002.07
	69. Kalahandi	3	11771.00	—	—
XI.	Rajasthan	76	218950.45	57	194203.27
	70. Ajmer	5	84459.60	3	4317.80
	71. Banswara	5	5055.00	5	5055.00
	72. Barmer	5	29521.40	5	29521.40

1	2	3	4	5	6
	73. Bikaner	4	27396.40	5	27396.40
	74. Churu	7	16861.35	7	16861.35
	75. Dungarpur	3	3770.00	3	3770.00
	76. Jaisalmar	2	41674.30	2	41674.30
	77. Jalore	4	10554.40	3	8308.80
	78. Jhunjhunu	4	5928.00	3	4460.20
	79. Jodhpur	5	22633.80	5	22633.80
	80. Nagaur	8	17628.00	8	17628.00
	81. Pali	7	12211.20	2	4763.80
	82. Udaipur	17	17267.00	7	7812.42
XII.	Tamil Nadu	77	84091.14	8	7451.66
	83. Coimbatore	10	15603.79	-	-
	84. Dharmapuri	8	9718.60	1	1227.80
	85. Madurai	12	12264.10	-	-
	86. Ramanathapuram	12	12575.49	3	3090.36-
	87. Salem	9	8543.00	-	-
	88. Tiruchirapalli	10	11078.86	1	943.30
	89. Tirunelveli	12	12505.50	3	2190.20
	90. Kanyakumari	4	1701.80	-	-
XIII.	Uttar Pradesh	31	43033.10	4	-
	91. Allahabad	8	7255.00	-	1354.40
	92. Banda	5	7645.10	1	1072.00
	93. Hamirpur	6	7192.00	1	2183.00
	94. Jalaun	4	4549.00	2	-
	95. Mirzapur	4	11301.00	-	-
	96. Varanasi	4	5091.00	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
XIV. West Bengal		8	26720.80	-	-
97. Bankura		2	6855.80	-	-
98. Midnapur		5	13606.00	-	-
99. Purulia		1	6259.00	-	-
Total		725	1081131.38	315	51128864
		in 99 districts			in 74 districts.

Improvement in Tourism Infrastructure

983. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to improve tourism infrastructure in the country to promote tourism;

(b) the details of funds allocated/released to State Governments during each of the last three years and the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any guidelines to State Governments to improve facilities for domestic/foreign tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has introduced schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects during the 10th Plan to improve tourist infrastructure in the country. State-wise details of projects sanctioned and amounts released during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed. Nine tourist infrastructure projects with Central financial component of Rs. 622.39 lakhs have been sanctioned in various States so far during the current financial year.

(c) and (d) State Governments/UT Administrations are impressed upon at various fora including State Tourism Ministers' Conference to improve tourist infrastructure in their respective States/Territories and create facilities to attract both domestic and foreign tourists.

Statement

State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	2000-01			2001-02			2002-03		
		No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Projects Sancd.	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released	No. of Projects	Amount Sancd.	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	299.50	228.50	6	167.85	129.76	2	507.50	195.00
2.	Assam	12	338.35	134.47	7	197.50	195.68	9	768.13	618.85
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	49.75	17.50	14	321.90	205.88	5	41.30	32.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4.	Bihar	13	324.48	148.52	1	1.35	1.35	8	505.090	505.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	4	120.28	37.25	3	35.00	23.50	9	308.00	98.50
6.	Goa	10	93.30	29.90	9	93.73	49.85	1	0.05	0.50
7.	Gujarat	18	469.20	155.62	11	305.50	120.30	2	197.12	59.13
8.	Haryana	6	123.31	74.75	7	125.44	82.89	8	332.25	311.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19	397.29	246.75	12	147.64	78.95	30	779.32	760.38
10.	J&K	12	474.93	328.63	3	65.50	60.95	3	94.38	89.47
11.	Jharkhand	6	206.49	115.14	2	80.00	24.00	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	19	489.30	295.66	8	254.76	166.99	6	902.49	625.49
13.	Kerala	14	717.60	471.44	11	680.08	356.62	11	861.36	829.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12	262.33	91.14	11	256.37	105.44	18	711.18	574.79
15.	Maharashtra	10	282.69	97.40	10	1128.20	965.91	8	623.46	546.25
16.	Manipur	18	782.77	234.92	0	0	0.00	2	5.24	2.62
17.	Meghalaya	5	105.59	46.10	5	87.87	36.95	3	70.35	21.20
18.	Mizoram	14	311.19	265.73	6	73.25	44.20	6	141.16	48.46
19.	Nagaland	8	156.53	95.95	5	41.54	22.70	5	360.50	323.43
20.	Orissa	4	156.94	65.52	4	38.05	28.82	2	47.50	15.75
21.	Punjab	6	203.50	61.33	3	17.50	12.34	3	23.00	14.60
22.	Rajasthan	22	454.96	253.71	2	5.00	2.50	13	1098.70	1096.20
23.	Sikkim	31	368.62	267.63	6	108.83	68.70	13	346.24	269.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	9	122.83	48.82	20	533.67	167.26	5	559.00	316.10
25.	Tripura	12	333.23	166.09	5	114.40	64.87	5	295.00	67.78
26.	Uttaranchal	7	70.19	33.53	3	65.51	40.79	3	548.00	418.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18	423.74	182.66	5	55.74	46.87	3	295.00	295.00
28.	West Bengal	23	432.99	311.03	7	229.85	98.63	5	201.10	60.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	1.78	0.89	0	0	0.00	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
30.	Chandigarh	5	22.13	16.14	2	8.00	7.12	3	7.75	6.63
31.	Dadara & Nagar Haveli	1	8.00	2.40	1	3.70	1.85	2	8.07	6.46
32.	Delhi	2	17.70	9.99	6	55.01	37.30	14	504.00	449.02
33.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0.00	1	5.00	1.50	3	49.50	16.90
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0.00	1	17.00	5.19	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	3	26.18	9.09	3	78.61	55.98	2	7.87	6.30
Total		363	8647.67	4544.20	209	56909.35	3311.55	212	11121.10	8680.93

Sardar Sarovar Project

984. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sought financial assistance (loan) from the Union Government for the early completion of Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) As reported by the Government of Gujarat no Financial Assistance has been sought from the Union Government specifically for early completion of Sardar Sarovar Project. The Central Government is providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for such ongoing irrigation projects for their early completion which have been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission. The Sardar Srovar Project has been provided CLA under AIBP since 1996-97 and an amount of Rs. 2896.25 crore has been provided upto 2002-03.

Extension of Open Sky Policy

985. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the limited 'Open Sky Policy' for two more years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the countries and airlines utilising the existing policy;

(d) whether the Government have debarred some countries and airlines from the limited open sky policy; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) For the past few years, Government has declared a limited open sky policy for the peak season, which enabled the foreign airlines to mount additional capacity to take care of seasonal rush. The decision in this regard for the coming year will be taken after considering new flights deployed by the national and foreign carriers during winter schedule on different routes and expected demand during winter tourist season on these routes.

(c) During the peak winter 2002-03 season, more than 50,000 additional seats were deployed by various foreign airlines under the open sky policy. Lufthansa (Germany), Virgin Atlantic (UK), Emirates (Dubai) and Korean Air (South Korea) operated additional services during this period. Also, airlines such as Singapore Airlines, South African Airways, Iran Air, Emirates, Austrian Airlines, Malaysian Airlines and Sri Lankan Airlines operated with bigger aircraft.

(d) and (e) Airlines from all countries were permitted to mount additional services under open sky policy for the period December, 2002 to 15th February, 2003 subject

to commercial agreement with Air India. However this limited open sky policy was subsequently extended upto 30th June, 2003 for the airlines of Western Europe/USA only because of tourism potential and tourist demand from their ports.

[*Translation*]

Animal Shelter and Ambulance Proposals from Madhya Pradesh

986. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of animal shelters and ambulances which have received grant under different schemes of animal welfare during the last three years;

(b) whether any proposal for an animal shelter and ambulance has been received from Dayodaya Animal Augmentation and Environment Centre, Tilwaraghat in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, whether the proposal has been approved;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) The number of animal shelters which have received grants under the animal welfare schemes during the last three years are, 77 (2000-2001), 91 (2001-2002), and 56 (2002-2003). The number of ambulances which have received grant under the animal welfare schemes during the last three years are, 28 (2000-2001), 37 (2001-2002), and 16 (2002-2003).

(b) to (e) Yes Sir. A proposal was received from Dayodaya Animal Augmentation and Environment Centre, Tilwaraghat in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh in 2001. Due to non receipt of requisite documents from Dayodaya Animal Augmentation and Environment Center, Tilwaraghat in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, the proposal could not be approved.

[*English*]

Extension to AAI Officials

987. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Board members of Airport Authority of India are serving on extension basis;

(b) if so, details of such Directors/Board members;

(c) the reasons for not initiating any action for inducting full time Chairman and members of the Board of Airport Authority of India; and

(d) the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) The airports Authority of India has regular and full-time incumbents on the posts of Member (Personnel and Administration), Member (Finance) and Member (Planning). The post of Member (Operation) is vacant and a panel of candidates has been selected. On completion of the formalities, the post is likely to be filled soon. The selection process for the post of Chairman, Airports Authority of India has been kept on hold as the matter is *sub-Judice* in the High Court of Delhi. However, routine duties and responsibilities of the Chairman have been given to Member (Personnel and Administration) from time to time.

[*Translation*]

Kendriya Shram Sansthan

988. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kendriya Shram Sansthan established in the country has been able to meet the security and health related requirements of the workers;

(b) if so, the number of such institutes functioning in the country at present, State-wise;

(c) the number of workers whose safety and health related requirements have been met every year by the regional Kendriya Shram Sansthan, Kolkata during the last three years and thereafter till date, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of Kendriya Shram Sansthan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Kendriya Shram Sansthan (Central Labour Institute) under the Directorate General of Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) has been established to provide support in the areas of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) to all establishments defined under the Factories Act, 1948. The authority to implement the laws governing OSH lies with the State Governments and individual employers. However, the OSH needs in the major ports of the country are the responsibility of Central Government and this is being carried out satisfactorily by the DGFASLI.

(b) One Central Labour Institute at Mumbai and four Regional Labour Institutes at Kolkata, Kanpur, Chennai and Faridabad are presently functioning in the country.

(c) Figures of the workers, whose safety and health related requirements are met, are not maintained at the Kendriya Shram Sansthan, Kolkata. The Shram Sansthan only provides support services by way of conducting training, seminars, workshops, safety audits, surveys and studies in the area of occupational safety and health.

(d) and (e) Review of the functioning of the Kendriya Shram Sansthan is a continuous process and is carried out from time to time.

(f) Does not arise.

Lease of Aircraft for Haj

989. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft hired by the Government for the transportation of Haj pilgrims during the period 1998 to 2003, country-wise and date-wise;

(b) the details of the agreements made for hiring the aircraft;

(c) the number of pilgrims allowed to be taken free in each foreign aircraft under the Haj service agreement;

(d) the year-wise details thereof;

(e) whether the aircraft provided by France were not in good condition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The details are as under:

Year	No. of Aircraft	Country	Date//Period
1998	4	USA	27.2.1998 to 12.5.1998
1999	5	UK	18.2.1999 to 30.4.1999
2000	5	UK	7.2.2000 to 22.4.2000
2001	6	Kampuchea	27.1.2001 to 11.4.2001

Saudi Arabian Airlines also participated during Haj-2001 operations. For the years 2002 and 2003, no aircraft was hired. Air India, Indian Airlines and Saudi Arabian Airlines have carried out the entire haj operations.

(b) The aircraft were hired on the basis of a global tender process. A Haj Tender Committee was formed which examined and evaluated technical and financial bids and recommended award of the contract.

(c) No pilgrim is carried free in the chartered aircraft. An amount of Rs. 12,000 is charged from each pilgrim for his air travel to/from Jeddah.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) No aircraft was offered by France.

(f) Does not arise in view of answer at (e) above.

[English]

Ahmedabad Airport

990. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmedabad Airport is an International Airport;

(b) if so, by when the direct flights from Ahmedabad to Hong Kong and Ahmedabad to Paris are likely to start operating; and

(c) the reasons for delay in starting such operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air India (AI) has already commenced direct flights from Ahmedabad to Paris from the month of April 2003.

At present, Air India operate 3 direct flights per week from Ahmedabad to Paris. Air India also operate Ahmedabad/Delhi flights for onward connections to Hong Kong on Tuesdays and Fridays. With the induction of the 07th B-747-400 leased aircraft into AI's fleet, the new services between Mumbai & New York (Newark International) via Paris were introduced in December, 2002. These services were extended from Ahmedabad from the month of April 2003. From the Winter schedule of AI, flights from New York (Newark International)/Paris to Mumbai will be extended to Ahmedabad directly on all days of the week.

(c) The demand in traffic between Ahmedabad and Hong Kong does not warrant direct operations as it is not commercially viable for AI.

Cruelty to Animals

991. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pertaining to cruelty to animals registered throughout the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of guilty people convicted during the said period;

(c) whether Animal Welfare Board is powerless to check it; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to give more powers to the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The responsibility for enforcement of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 vests with the State

Governments. The Animal Welfare Board of India is not a regulatory body. The role of the Board is to advise the Central Government on legal and technical aspects of animal welfare, apart from granting financial assistance for various activities to Animal Welfare Organizations.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Development of Water Resources

992. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allocated Rs. 3600 crore for development of water resources in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether Projects have been identified under which the said amount has to be spent; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes sir, Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 3600 crore for Central Plan of Ministry of Water Resources during Tenth Five Year Plan. In addition, an outlay of Rs. 92,143 crore has been earmarked for irrigation and flood control sector under State Plans for the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(b) Yes Sir. for the Central Plan outlay of Rs. 3600 crore, the schemes have been identified.

(c) The details of the schemes under the Central Plan are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Tenth Plan Outlay (Rs. crore)
1	2	3
1.	IT Development in MoWR	3.00
2.	Water Quality Assessment Authority	5.00
3.	National Water Academy	10.00

1	2	3
4.	Snow Hydrology	2.00
5.	Cell for monitoring Externally Assisted Projects in CWC	3.00
6.	Monitoring of Water Quality of Rivers in India	10.50
7.	Hydrology observation of rivers originating from Bhutan	1.50
8.	Strengthening of monitoring organization in CWC	19.00
9.	Kirthai and other multipurpose projects in Indus basin	7.00
10.	Data Collection from key hydrological stations	40.00
11.	Studies on Reservoir Sedimentation, River morphology and other Remote Sensing Applications.	14.00
12.	R&D, Research, Evaluation Studies & Mass Awareness activities	32.00
13.	Upgradation & modernization of computerization/information system in CWC	12.00
14.	Investigation of W.R. Development in North Eastern States.	4.00
15.	Setting up of specialized unit in HE designs, Pumped Storage and Instrumentation in CWC.	3.00
16.	Geo-Technical Investigations for River Valley Projects by CSMRs	22.00
17.	Applied/Basic Research in Structures in CSMRS	6.00
18.	Advance Research and Consultancy in CSMRS	4.00
19.	Upgradation of Laboratory and Field Testing Facilities in CSMRS	6.00
20.	Sediment Disposal Research Centre in CWPRS	0.05
21.	Augmentation of Water & Power Supply	0.05
22.	Staff Colony-Phase III in CWPRS	0.30
23.	Schemes for RS Techniques, Offshore data, Earth Science laboratory, etc. by CWPRS.	4.00
24.	IT Development at CWPRS.	1.48
25.	Modernization & Upgradation of Research facilities at CWPRS	20.00
26.	Improvement Canal control through modern techniques and technology by CWPRS	1.00
27.	Continuation & Strengthening of NIH & INCOH	15.00
28.	Continuation & Strengthening of NIH Regional Centres for Flood Management & Drought Prone area Studies	10.00
29.	Feasibility study of inter-basin transfer of water	85.00
30.	Ground Water Survey, Exploration & Investigation	277.00
31.	Central Ground Water Authority	5.00
32.	Acquisition of Land & Building for CGWB	20.00
33.	Artificial recharge of Ground Water	150.00
34.	Rajiv Gandhi National Ground Water Training & Research Institute	10.00

1	2	3
35.	Conjunctive use of Ground Water & Surface Water	2.00
36.	R&D Schemes of CGWB	2.00
37.	Development of Ground Water Resources & rain harvesting in major cities	20.00
38.	R&D Schemes in CAD sector.	5.00
39.	Grant in aid to Brahmaputra Board	102.00
40.	Ganga Flood Control Commission	15.00
41.	Pagladiya Dam Project	250.00
42.	Joint observation on rivers common to Bangladesh and neighbouring countries	13.00
43.	Survey & Invest. of Kosi High Dam	30.00
44.	Maintenance of Flood protection works of Kosi & Gandak Project	35.00
45.	Pancheshwar Project	15.00
46.	Harrange Drainage Scheme in Assam	20.00
47.	Ext. of embankments of Lalbakeya, Kamla, Bagmati & Khando river in Bihar	60.00
48.	Improvement of Drainage in country including Mokama Tal area in Bihar	50.00
49.	New Scheme for Majuli Island in Assam, Dihang Project etc.	42.00
50.	Strengthening & Modernization of FF & HO Network in Brahmaputra and Barak Basin	14.00
51.	Flood Forecasting in rivers common to India & Nepal	3.00
52.	Investigation for Teesta Hydel Project, Ranjit HE Project II & IV & Manas-Teesta Link	9.00
53.	Establishment & Modernisation of flood forecasting network in India including inflow forecasts	72.00
54.	Scheme for construction of non-residential/residential/office buildings of CWC	25.00
55.	Farakka Barrage Project including works for flood protection, anti-erosion, river training and special repairs	150.00
56.	Dam Safety & Rehabilitation in India	8.00
57.	Rationalization of Minor Irrigation Statistics	40.00
58.	Command Area Development & Water Management	1401.80
59.	Flood Proofing Programme	20.00
60.	Critical anti-erosion works in Ganga States	192.00
61.	Flood Control in Brahmaputra Valley	150.00
62.	Critical anti-erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga Basin States	30.00
63.	Hydrology Project.	21.32
Total		3600.00

Abbreviation: MoWR—Ministry of Water Resources; CWC—Central Water Commission; CSMRS—Central Soil & Material Research Station; CWPRs—Central Water & Power Research Station; NIH—National Institute of Hydrology, CGWB—Central Ground Water Board, INCOH—Indian National Committee of Hydrology.

*[English]***Use of Fly Ash in Farming**

993. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Rao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth has successfully conducted an experiment to use fly ash for increasing crop yield; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to popularise use of fly ash in farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir. Dr. P.D.K.V. Akola has conducted an experiment on the use of fly ash for increasing crop yields at College of Agriculture, Nagpur.

(b) Field experiment with fly ash @ 10 t/ha have revealed increase in the crop yields, especially with respect to crops grown on Vertisols and inceptisols. Based on the encouraging results, the University has conducted about 433 demonstrations on cultivators' fields.

Establishment of National Institute of Environmental Health

994. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:
COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a National Institute of Environmental Health Services with Regional Centers in various States;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the proposed institution, alongwith the financial implications;

(c) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has consulted the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard; and

(d) if so, the response thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Breeding of Wild Animals

995. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India lack infrastructure to protect its animals and birds from being killed for their specific body parts/organs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are exploring the possibilities of allowing private parties to breed wild animals and extract medicinal products from them;

(d) if so, the detailed strategy chalked out in this regard;

(e) whether the musk deer farm in Uttaranchal has failed to yield any results;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the reasons for choosing musk deer for captive breeding?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Protection of wild animals and birds from poaching and illegal trade in their parts and products is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. For this purpose, the State governments have established Forest and Wild Life Departments with officers and field staff trained in management and protection. Assistance of other departments like, Police, CBI, Customs etc, specialized institutions, NGO's and individuals is also taken in this regard. It is mentioned that the natural habitat of wild animals & birds is not restricted to the forests and protected areas alone. There are many species which are found in association with human habitations and, therefore, it is difficult to provide complete protection to all species of animals and birds.

(c) and (d) According to the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) act, 1972, permission can be granted to individuals and others for captive breeding and extraction of snake venom for the purpose of manufacture of life saving drugs. There is currently no plan for allowing private parties to breed other wild animals for the extraction of medicinal products from them.

(e) and (f) As informed by the State Government, the Kanchula Khark Musk Deer Farm in Uttaranchal has been successful from the point of view of reproduction, scientific research and study on musk deer.

(g) As informed by the State Government, the captive breeding of musk deer was taken up for the purpose of scientific research and population management.

Promotion of Folk Dance

996. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal for promotion of Folk dance in the country;

(b) if so, the grants given to various States during the last three years for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the other steps taken by the Government for the promotion of Folk dances of these States?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) One of the major objectives of the seven Zonal Cultural Centres is the promotion of folk/tribal art forms. For this purpose, the Government of India gives annual grant to all the ZCCs. These funds are utilized by the ZCCs for promotion of cultural tradition including folk dances of various States. Funds are not given directly to the States. Besides, every year a National Folk Dance Festival is held at New Delhi on the eve of Republic Day Celebrations.

Expansion of Mangalore Airport

997. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion project of Bajpe (Mangalore) Airport has been delayed much behind schedule, causing cost over-runs;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has already handed over the required land to the Airport Authority of India and had completed infrastructural developments like approach roads etc.;

(c) if so, whether the Government have made adequate fund provisions for completion of the project during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) State Government of Karnataka has handed over 176.87 acres of land to Airports Authority of India only last month, out of 186.33 acres of land required for construction of new runway and associated facilities at Mangalore airport. The balance piece of land is yet to be handed over.

(c) and (d) A token provision of Rs. 1.6 crore has been made in the Annual Budget 2003-04 for expansion project of Mangalore airport. Adequate fund provision would be made in the revised estimates and in the Budget of 2004-05 suitably to complete the work.

Strengthening of Co-Operative Movement

998. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering to bring forward any legislation to strengthen co-operative movement in the country and to ensure timely elections of co-operative bodies;

(b) if so, by when such a legislation will see the light of the day;

(c) whether a number of States have not held elections of co-operative bodies for more than six and seven years; and

(d) if so, the details of such States and action proposed to be taken to ensure timely conduct of elections of co-operative bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) "Co-operative Societies" is a State subject as per the seventh schedule to the Constitution of India. State Governments have enacted their own Co-operative Societies acts to regulate the affairs of the co-operative societies including their elections. Central Government has no jurisdiction over such societies. However, the Central Government has enacted the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 to ensure, *inter alia*, timely conduct of elections of the co-operatives coming within the purview of the Act.

Impact of Disinvestment and Closure of Units

999. DR. (MRS.) RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether unemployment has increased due to slow industrial development as a result of economic recession, disinvestment and closing down of small scale industrial units;

(b) if so, the action taken to create more jobs to safeguard the interest of the workforce; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure investment of certain amount of earnings from disinvestment for creating employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) survey results for the year 1993-94 and 1999-2000 show a marginal increase in unemployment as per usual status approach. The increase is primarily due to the fact that the growth of employment in the economy was not in tune with the growth of labour force.

(b) A Special Group headed by Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission was constituted for targeting 50 million employment opportunities during the 10th Plan period. The recommendation of the Special Group have been considered for implementation during the 10th Plan period.

(c) As announced by the Finance Minister in the Budget Speech for the year 2001-2002, the proceeds from disinvestments are to be utilized for providing restructuring assistance to PSUs, safety net to workers, reduction of debt burden and as an additional budgetary support for the Plan, primarily in the social and infrastructure sectors.

Remittance by Indian Workers Abroad

1000. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether remittances by Indian workers from abroad both from traditional destinations and non-traditional destinations have been rising during the decade 1992-2002;

(b) if so, the details of such remittances recorded during the decade, sector-wise, and the rate of growth registered, year-wise;

(c) whether IT sector had shown any declining trend over the past three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Although overall remittances by Indian workers from abroad increased from Rs. 8,124 Crores in 1992-93 to Rs. 57,821 Crores in 2001-02, sector-wise details are not maintained.

(c) and (d) Since sector-wise details are not maintained, it can not be said whether there has been any decline in the I.T. sector in the recent past.

Deforestation of Forest Land

1001. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the deforestation of forest land for various projects in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have made any assessment of environmental problem due to deforestation of the forest land; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Central Government accords approval for the diversion of forest lands for various development projects like power, irrigation, construction of roads, railway lines, drinking water supply etc. State-wise details of forest area diverted for such non-forestry purposes are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Site inspection is always conducted and wherever required, the environmental impact assessment studies by the experts are also conducted before diverting the forest lands. Further, Central Government always stipulates the conditions for mitigating the adverse environmental impacts caused due to loss of forest cover, by appropriate compensatory afforestation, safety zone creation, reclamation and other such measures.

Statement**Details Regarding Deforestation of Forest Land**

S.No.	State	Forest area Diverted in Hectares
1	2	3
1.	Assam	5281
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3391
3.	Andhra Pradesh	21555
4.	A&N Islands	2227
5.	Bihar	5979
6.	Chandigarh	NA
7.	Chhattisgarh	15929
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	168
9.	Daman & Diu	0
10.	Delhi	NA
11.	Goa	389
12.	Gujarat	52657
13.	Haryana	1582
14.	Himachal Pradesh	4905
15.	Jharkhand	.
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	1286
17.	Karnataka	34138
18.	Kerala	30993
19.	Manipur	247
20.	Meghalaya	356
21.	Madhya Pradesh	228019
22.	Mizoram	8528
23.	Maharashtra	75872
24.	Punjab	2577
25.	Nagaland	0
26.	Pondicherry	NA
27.	Orissa	27233

1	2	3
28.	Sikkim	623
29.	Rajasthan	12711
30.	Tamil Nadu	4160
31.	Tripura	2389
32.	West Bengal	9359
33.	Uttar Pradesh	6484
34.	Uttaranchal	24249
35.	Lakshadweep	0
Total		583287

*Area of Jharkhand included in Bihar

Ghaggar River Control Board

1002. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the developments made in the Ghaggar River Control Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Ghaggar Standing Committee. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on the Demands for Grants 1999-2000 of the Ministry of Water Resources suggested that local Hon'ble Members of the Parliament and Legislative Assemblies might also be associated with the Ghaggar Standing Committee, to help in expeditious launch of the Ghaggar Flood Control system. Accordingly, Hon'ble members of the Parliament from the concerned areas of Ghaggar river basin were associated in the last (13th) meeting of the Ghaggar Standing Committee held on 29.11.2002. The Hon'ble Members suggested to have a time bound programme for the preparation of a Master Plan for Ghaggar basin, *inter alia* addressing the problem of river pollution, afforestation along the embankments and social forestry.

Strengthening of Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund

1003. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to strengthen the Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund in the States; and

(b) the Central allocation made and the actual funds released under Centrally Sponsored Scheme to Agricultural Stabilisation Fund for the use of State Co-operative banks during the last three years in the country particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) In order to strengthen the Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund maintained at State Cooperative Bank level, central assistance is released under the Agricultural

Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme to the State Governments in the ratio of 75% grant and 25% loan to cover the deficit in the optimum level of the Fund.

(b) Under the Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme funds are released on the basis of proposals received from the States. Details of funds released under the scheme during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are given in the statement enclosed. The scheme has been subsumed under the Macro Management mode from the year 2000-01. The State Governments are required to incorporate this component in their work plan for release of funds under the scheme.

Statement

Financial assistance provided to State under Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)				
S.No.	States	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.00	200.00	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	36.50
5.	Delhi	—	—	—
6.	Goa	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	—	—	—
8.	Haryana	—	—	226.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
11.	Karnataka	—	60.00	—
12.	Kerala	10.00	40.00	40.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	200.00	—	—
14.	Maharashtra	—	—	—
15.	Manipur	—	10.00	—
16.	Meghalaya	—	10.00	7.50
17.	Mizoram	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Nagaland	—	—	—
19.	Orissa	—	—	—
20.	Punjab	50.00	60.00	200.00
21.	Rajasthan	60.00	40.00	40.00
22.	Sikkim	—	—	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—
24.	Tripura	—	20.00	50.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	40.00	60.00	100.00
26.	West Bengal	—	—	—
	Total	400.00	500.00	700.00

Financial Position of IA

1004. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial position of Indian Airlines (IA) has become weak;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated loss of IA in the first quarter of 2003-04; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve its finances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) After earning continuous profit for three years from 1997-98 to 1999-2000, Indian Airlines started incurring losses from the year 2000-01 onwards primarily due to reasons beyond the control of the airline. The main reasons are as under:-

- (i) Two successive hikes in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices during the year 2000 by almost 50%. Price of ATF touched on all time high of Rs. 25,200 per kilo litre in March, 2003.
- (ii) Increase in landing and navigational charges.
- (iii) Increase in security related expenditure due to sky marshalling of flights, secondary frisking of passengers and baggage at boarding and ladder points etc.

(iv) Increase in aircraft maintenance expenditure.

(v) Increase in insurance premiums after the terrorists attack at Colombo Airport in July, 2001 and following the September 11, 2001 incidents in USA.

(c) The Company has incurred an estimated loss of Rs. 44.65 crores in the first quarter (April-June) of 2003-04.

(d) Indian Airlines has taken various measures and working out strategies, from time to time and on an on-going basis, to improve its financial performance. The steps taken in this regard mainly include the following:-

- (I) *Comprehensive budgetary control system:* whereby actual performance is compared with budget estimates, shortfall analysis and corrective actions, wherever called for, is initiated on an on-going basis.
- (II) *Cost-benefit analysis:* before undertaking any major project/investment.
- (III) *Cost Control and Economy measures:* Control on overtime, engagement of casual labour, Staff on Duty (SOD) travel, hotel, transport & other crew lay over expenditure, aircraft maintenance, freeze on recruitment unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons, fuel monitoring and linking, review of uneconomic flights, inventory management, outsourcing of services wherever feasible/economical.

Problem of Air Space at Bangalore Airport

1005. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangalore International Airport is facing trouble over the management of air space between several authorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to resolve the matter quickly to enable the airport to handle more flight operations in an hour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government of India constituted a core group to suggest an Integrated Air Space Management System for the proposed Bangalore International Airport, existing HAL Airport and Yelahanka Airbase of Indian Air Force; allocation of horizontal and vertical limits; and equipments for joint manning of air traffic. The core group has submitted its report in consultation with concerned organizations.

Distribution of Cotton Seeds

1006. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton seeds distributed to the farmers particularly in Tribal and Scheduled Caste areas in Karnataka during the last three years;

(b) the varieties of cotton seeds under cultivation in different parts of the country;

(c) the production of cotton in Karnataka during each of the last three years; and

(d) the assistance and technique proposed to be given to Karnataka by the Union Government to enhance the production of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The quantity of certified/quality seed of cotton distributed to the farmers in Karnataka including tribal

and scheduled caste areas in last three years, is given below:

Year	Quantity (quintals)
2000-2001	6383.00
2001-2002	6875.00
2002-2003	5731.00

(b) The varieties/hybrids under cultivation in different parts of the country are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The production of cotton in Karnataka during 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 is as under:

Year	Production (thousand Bales of 170 kg. each)
1999-2000	664.5
2000-2001	855.2
2001-2002	721.0

(d) The Government of India is implementing Technology Mission on Cotton to increase its' production and productivity in the country including Karnataka. Under this Scheme, assistance is provided to the States for the transfer of technologies through demonstration and training as well as supply of critical inputs like seed, sprayers, sprinklers, drip irrigation systems, pheromone traps and bio-agents. The techniques covered in the demonstration and training includes crop rotation, nutrient management, maintenance of plant population, promotion of bio-fertilizer/ bio-pesticides, water use efficiency through sprinkler and drip irrigation systems etc.

Statement**Hybrids/Varieties Seeds Under Cultivation (Cotton)**

Hybrids	Varieties	
1	2	
AHH-1	American Necterless	L-604
CAHH-8	Arvinda	LD-327
DCH-32	Abhadita	LD-694
DHH-11	AKA-081	LH-1556
H-10	AKA-5	LH-900

1	2	
H-4	AKA-8401	LRA-5166
H-6	AKA-84635	LRK-5169 (Anjali)
H-8	AKA-4	Maljhari
JKHY-1	AKA-7	MCU-5
JKHY-2	Bekneri Narma	MCU-7
LH-900	Cotton-6669	MCU-5VT
LH-144 (Ajit)	Dhaval	NA-1325
MBCRH-104	DHY-286	Narsimha
MBCRH-106	Digvijay	NH-452
MBCRH-2	F-1054	PA-255
NBHB-11	F-1378	PA-183
NHH-44	F-414	PA-32
PHH-316	F-505	PUSA-8-6
PKVHY-2	F-846	RG-18
PKVHY-3	F-1861	RS-810
PKVHY-5	F-1098	RG-8
SAVITA	F-1156	RS-875
VARALAXMI	Ganga Ageti	RST-9
LDH-11	G.COT-13	SVPR-2
OMSHANKAR	G.COT-21	Sahana
Bi-Cotton	G.COT-23	Suvin
MECH-12	H-1098	Supriya
MECH-162	HD-117	Surbhi
MECH-184	H-777	Tapti
RCH-2	H-974	V-797
VICH-9	HD-107	Vikram
VICH-5	HD-123	Vikas
RCH-20	HHH-81	Y-1
Ankur-651	HS-6	
NBHB-11	I-974	
Kashinath (NFHB-109)	JKCH-444	
Ankur-09	JKCH-666	
Mahabeej-101	JKCH-9	
Bunny (NCHH-145)	JKCH-99	
Swadeshi-1 (ADCH-1)	K-2	
NCS-207 (Malika)	K-10	
Brahma	Khandwa-2	

[*Translation*]**Siberian Cranes**

1007. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 867 dated February 24, 2003 and state:

(a) the assistance provided by the Union as well as State Government for the development of 989 bigha pond which is visited by Siberian Cranes from the month of November to February/March every year in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Union Government would issue guidelines to the State Government for survey and development of this pond; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Financial assistance is provided by the Union Government under centrally sponsored scheme for development of national parks and sanctuaries based on the proposals submitted by the State Governments. No assistance has been asked for by the State Forest Department for development of 989 bigha pond situated in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh as a wildlife sanctuary or a national park. Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported that no assistance has been provided for this area under the schemes of the State Government through the Forest Department.

(b) and (c) For the purpose of declaring a national park or a wildlife sanctuary for protecting, propagating or enveloping wildlife or its environment in an area of adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, natural or zoological significance, the State Governments are fully empowered under Wild Life (Protection) act 1972. No separate guidelines in this regard are therefore required.

Production of Fruits in U.P.

1008. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fruits production has decreased in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; * ,

(b) if so, the action being taken to increase the production; and

(c) the quantum of fruits imported and exported during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The available information on the production of fruits during the last three years are as follows:

Years	Production (000'MT)
1998-99	3097.8
1999-00	3210.5
2000-01	2713.0

There has been a mixed trend in the production of fruits in U.P. during the above period.

(b) The Government is providing support for development of fruits under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture—Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan. Under this, the State Governments have been given the freedom to take up programmes as per their felt needs and priority.

(c) The available information of the value of fruits imported and exported are as follows:

(Value in Rs. Crores)

	Import of fresh Fruits & nuts	Export of fresh Fruits
2000-01	797.76	386.38
2001-02	756.77	417.15
2002-03	610.36	432.03

[English]

Deteriorating Financial Condition of Farmers In Uttar Pradesh

1009. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of deteriorating financial condition of farmers in flood affected districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct any survey; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have reported that there is no deteriorating financial condition of farmers in flood affected districts of Uttar Pradesh. It has also been informed by the State Government that for further improvement of the financial condition of farmers in flood affected districts, 1923 km. long embankments along various rivers have been constructed upto March 2003. In addition, 13,263 km. long drains have also been constructed to drain out inundated areas.

(c) and (d) In view of the position given at (a) & (b) above, the state Government have further informed that the question to conduct any surveys does not arise.

Biological Diversity Act, 2002

1010. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Biological Diversity Act, 2002 has attracted sharp criticism from many quarters especially on the issues of collaborative research projects, the particular clause in the Act, which may encourage bio piracy and alienate indigenous farmers from their resource;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to promote the Documentation of traditional knowledge sources;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In fact, the Biological Diversity act provides for checking biopiracy and realize equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of utilization of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

(c) to (e) Section 41 of the Biological Diversity Act provides for constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees by local bodies whose functions *inter alia* include documentation of biological diversity and

chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity. The National Institute of science, Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR) developed Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) which transcribes the information present in Ayurvedic texts into five international languages. TKDL will facilitate patent examiners to prevent biopiracy of codified traditional knowledge of Ayurveda.

[Translation]

Consultant to Assess EPF Investment

1011. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund has decided to appoint a consultant to assess the quantum of their investments;

(b) if so, the duties by which the consultant is to be entrusted with;

(c) whether an international consultant has been contacted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Programme for Development of Agriculture In North Eastern States

1012. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan and programme for all round development of agriculture in North-Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the present status of these plans and programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A List of major Schemes under implementation for the development of Agriculture and Horticulture in the North-Eastern states is as follows:-

- (i) Macro Management Scheme.
- (ii) One-farm Water Management.
- (iii) Technology Mission for Horticulture Development in North-Eastern States including Skilm.
- (iv) Oilseed Production Programme (OPP).
- (v) Accelerated Maize Development Project (AMDP).
- (vi) National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)
- (vii) Agri-Clinics and Agri-business Centre Scheme.
- (viii) Cooperative Education and Training.

Flights between Colombo and Thiruvananthapuram

1013. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lankan Airlines has recently approached the Indian Government for operational rights of flights from Colombo-Maldives-Cochin and back;

(b) whether the Government propose to link the flight to Thiruvananthapuram Airport; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in sanctioning the above services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) As per the existing Air Services agreement between India and Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Airlines can operate 3 frequencies/450 seats per week to Cochin with rights to pick up/discharge traffic to/from Male, subject to commercial agreement with Air India.

(b) and (c) Sri Lankan Airlines are presently operating 7 services per week between Colombo and Thiruvananthapuram. There is no proposal to link Thiruvananthapuram on Sri Lankan Airlines flights between Colombo and Male.

ATR Hub In Guwahati

1014. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation proposes to shift the ATR Hub from Kolkata to Guwahati;

(b) if so, by when the ATR Hub is likely to be shifted to Guwahati; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not shifting the ATR Hub to Guwahati though the ATR services are exclusively meant for the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Utilization of Guwahati as ATR Hub would depend on creation of the required infrastructure at that place. However, Alliance Air proposes to night halt one ATR aircraft at Guwahati after October, 2003. This will enable Alliance Air to increase the intra-regional connectivity and also connectivity between the North East Region and the rest of India.

Potentiality For FPI

1015. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal have tremendous potential for Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government to assess the potentiality of the States and to identify the sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government would consider offering new programmes/schemes to the States including West Bengal in view of its potentiality; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has not conducted any study to assess the potentiality of West Bengal in food processing. However, the Ministry has written to all the States including West Bengal to conduct such a study.

(e) and (f) The Ministry provides assistance for schemes like development of infrastructural facilities, setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing industries, research and development, person power development etc. Such assistance is provided as and when techno-economically viable schemes are received through the State Government and these meet the criteria of the Ministry.

Proposals for Tourism Development

1016. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from the State Government for development of new tourist sites during the last three years;

(b) the proposals lying pending/under consideration/rejected during the said period; and

(c) by when all the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Tourism projects are identified every year in consultation with the State Government/UT Administrations and sanctioned on merits subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. Based on the proposals received and consultations held with the State Governments/UT Administrations, 784 tourism projects were sanctioned in various States/UTs for development and promotion of tourism during the last three years. Project proposals received and not sanctioned in the previous year are taken up in the new financial year subject to consultations with the State Governments.

Expansion of Indore Airport

1017. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of land acquisition for the expansion and development of Indore Airport has been completed;

(b) if so, the total land acquired therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to develop and expand the Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has requested State Government of Madhya Pradesh for 150 acres of land for extension of runway and allied works. The State Government has now requested AAI to reduce the quantum of land requirement, which is being examined by AAI, at present.

(c) Development and expansion plan of the airport will be finalised only after the required land is handed over to AAI, firm commitment to AAI from schedule airlines

for operating their flights, and the project is approved by the competent authority.

Expansion of Capacity of Public Sector Steel Plants

1018. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel capacity is proposed to be expanded both in the public and private sectors;

(b) if so, whether any plan has been formulated for expansion of the Steel capacity in the public sector steel plants;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the estimated expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) the time by when it is likely to be implemented;

(e) the existing capacity of each plant; and

(f) the extent to which it is being utilised during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) At present, Government have no plans for expansion of capacity of public sector steel plants. There is no restriction on expansion of capacity by private and public sector steel plants barring certain locational restrictions. Entrepreneurs are free to expand their steel capacity on the basis of commercial decisions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The existing saleable steel capacity and its utilisation in public sector steel plants during the last two years are given below:

Steel Plant	Existing Capacity (^{'000} tonnes)	%capacity utilisation	
		2001-02	2002-03
Bhilai Steel Plant	3153	107	115
Durgapur Steel Plant	1586	96	100
Rourkela Steel Plant	1671	81	91
Bokaro Steel Plant	3780	85	89
Alloy Steel Plant	184	46	54
Salem Steel Plant	175	36	47
Visweswaraya Iron & Steel Plant	77	113	109
IISCO, Bumpur	.	102	82
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant	2656	104	115

*Capacity of IISCO during 2010-02 and 2002-03 was 297,000 tonnes and 351,000 tonnes respectively.

Dismantling of Safdarjung Airport

1019. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to do away with the present Safdarjung Airport built during the British period;

(b) if so, the manner in which the 200 acres of land of the airport is proposed to be utilised;

(c) whether any alternative airport is in the offing in place of the present one;

(d) whether the present flying club being operational for training of civilians will also be closed rendering the Delhi population without any flying club; and

(e) if so, the details of alternative suggested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Environmental Awareness amongst School Children

1020. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental education has not yet become part of school curriculum in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to educate the children about environmental awareness; and

(d) the funds allocated for creating environmental awareness during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The environmental concepts have already been infused in the school curriculum/text books in all the States. However with a view to strengthen the infusion, the Government has taken up a pilot project in eight States with the assistance of the World Bank.

(c) and (d) To create awareness among school children Eco-clubs under the scheme of National Green Corps have been established the country over. State-wise details of funds released for creating environmental awareness during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise breakup of the funds released during the last three years for creating environmental awareness among children

State	Funds released in Rupees
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	64,68,529
Andaman & Nicobar	1,08,300
Arunachal Pradesh	12,61,770

1	2
Assam	33,83,237
Bihar	36,03,360
Chandigarh	1,47,504
Chhattisgarh	24,06,193
Dadra & Nagar	90,480
Daman & Diu	40,920
Delhi	16,12,300
Goa	3,05,008
Gujarat	77,27,410
Haryana	47,90,300
Himachal Pradesh	30,25,890
Jammu & Kashmir	12,61,770
Jharkhand	18,92,160
Karnataka	39,67,213
Kerala	35,29,235
Lakshadweep	22,701
Madhya Pradesh	1,13,43,969
Maharashtra	48,54,110
Manipur	8,10,360
Meghalaya	8,11,350
Mizoram	7,20,870
Nagaland	7,20,870
Orissa	75,62,646
Pondicherry	3,60,930
Punjab	42,84,974
Rajasthan	28,83,480
Tamil Nadu	43,63,677
Tripura	5,88,976
Sikkim	3,59,940
Uttaranchal	19,12,355
Uttar Pradesh	63,05,880
West Bengal	28,52,545

[*Translation*]

Development of Pisciculture in J&K and W.B.

1021. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented any scheme for development of pisciculture in Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released for the purpose during the last two years; and

(d) the details of developmental works undertaken in those States, district-wise, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Freshwater Aquaculture is being implemented in all the States including Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs). All the districts of Jammu & Kashmir are covered under two FFDAs in operation at regional level while in case of West Bengal all the district are covered through 18 FFDAs in operation at district level. Another Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Integrated Coastal Aquaculture is also being implemented in all the coastal States including West Bengal where 3 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) are in operation. Agencies under both the schemes provide a package of technical, financial and extension support to the fish farmers. Financial assistance is given to the beneficiaries through the States for a number of developmental activities under the above schemes. A pilot scheme on Development of Fisheries and Acquaculture in Hill Regions with 100% Central assistance was sanctioned to the State of Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2001-02.

(c) During the last two years, the State Governments of Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal were provided Rs. 1.12 crores and Rs. 8.08 crores respectively as Central share under the above schemes.

(d) As per details given in the statements-I and II enclosed.

Statement I

West Bengal—Works undertaken District-wise during last two year (2001-2003)

Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

Sl. No.	Name of District	Water Area brought under fish culture (ha)
1.	Burdwan	368.0
2.	Hooghly	333.5
3.	Howrah	235.0+ 53U. Oma*
4.	24 Parganas (S)	458.7+ 13U. Orna*
5.	24 Parganas (N)	578.6+ 5U. Orna*
6.	Nadia	267.0
7.	Murshidabad	261.3
8.	Malda	80.4
9.	Birbhum	335.0
10.	U. Dinajpur	121.3
11.	D. Dinajpur	110.6
12.	Siliguri Sub-Divn.	11.0
13.	Jalpaiguri	149.6
14.	Darjeeling	314 U. Jh.**
15.	Cooch Behar	65.0
16.	Midnapore	739.1
17.	Bankura	193.1
18.	Purulia	128.8
Total		4436.0 +68 U. Orna +314 U. Jh.

*Units Ornamental Fishes.

**Units Jhora Fishery.

Development of Integrated Coastal Aquaculture

Sl. No.	Name of District	Water Area brought under fish culture (ha)
1.	24-Pgns. (N)	312.5
2.	24-Pgns. (S)	296.3
3.	Midnapore (E)	254.4
Total		863.2

Statement II

Jammu & Kashmir—Works undertaken District-wise during last two years (2001-2003)

Pilot Scheme on Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Name of District	Item of Works
Anantnag	• One Laboratory at Kokarnag trout farm and one trout unit have been established in district Anantnag.
Srinagar	• One feed mill at Harwan and one trout unit have been established in district Srinagar.
Baramulla	• One feed mill at Shokbaba and one trout unit have been established in district Baramulla.
Kupwara	• One trout unit has been established in district Kupwara.

[English]

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

1022. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to include crops like coconut, arecanut, rubber, cardamom, tea and coffee under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) as recommended by Kerala Government;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) These crops are not covered because of non-availability of adequate past yield data and difficulty in assessing the yield due to the multi-picking nature of the crops.

Nammoora Bandhara's Scheme

1023. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether 100 barrages have been constructed in the river basins under the first phase of the 'Nammoora Bandhara's Scheme' in Karnataka;

(b) if so, by when the work on the project is likely to be completed;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to provide financial assistance to the State Government;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. as reported by the Government of Karnataka, pre-feasibility study to identify the sites and number of barrages to be constructed across all rivers/major nalas under 'Nammoora Bhandara' scheme are under process. After obtaining the Detailed Project Report, construction of barrages will be undertaken.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Training to Workers by CBWE

1024. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board for Workers Education (CBWE) imparts training to workers in the techniques of trade unionism and in bringing about consciousness among workers about their rights, duties and responsibilities.

(b) if so, the module adopted for imparting such training;

(c) the number of training camps and the places where these were held during the last two years and the number of workers of different trade unions participated in such training camps;

(d) whether such training has helped in carrying out their activities by the trade unions without disrupting the normal functioning of the organisations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The modules adopted to provide training include subject like productivity education, labour economics, social security, informal labour registration, role of workers in the changing global scenario, etc.

(c) During the last two years i.e. from April 2001 to March 2002 and April 2002 to March 2003, the CBWE conducted 7101 training programmes in organized sector for the benefit of 1,81,732 workers of Central Trade Union Organisations & Federations such as BMS, INTUC, AITUC, HMS, HMKP, UTUC, CITU, etc. and also their affiliates. These training programmes were conducted by CBWE through Indian Institute of Workers Education, Mumbai, an apex-training institute of the Board and all 49 Regional Directorates spread through out the country. Besides, 8684 training programmes were also conducted for 3,38,485 workers in the unorganised/rural sector.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The impact study conducted by CBWE in 1996 revealed that the CBWE training programmes has to a great extent helped the workers to participate effectively in their respective unions. On the basis of feedback received from workers and their unions, the Workers Education Scheme has helped the workers to develop actively both as members and office bearers of their respective unions in various areas concerned with their daily activities connected to union functioning.

Import of E-Waste

1025. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that huge quantity of computer junk imported in the country in the garb of second hand computers is being recycled resulting in serious health hazardous for the people;

(b) if so, whether there are any guidelines for reprocessing of computers waste in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) the fresh steps taken by the Government to formulate guidelines for disposal of E-Waste in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) As per para 2.17 of the EXIM Policy 2002-2007, import of second hand goods is restricted and can be imported only with the permission of DGFT. Electronic waste is also included in List-A and List-B of Schedule-3 of the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1989, as amended in 2003. The import of this waste requires specific permission of the Ministry of Environment & Forests. No permission has been given to any authority or person by the Ministry till date.

(e) International Guidelines are available for reprocessing E-wastes in an environmentally sound manner. The Central Pollution Control Board has been asked to study these and formulate suitable guidelines, keeping in view, *inter-alia*, the composition of E-waste generated in the country.

[*Translation*]

OBCs, SCs and STs Employees

1026. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees working in the departments and undertakings under the Ministry of Water Resources, category-wise; and

(b) the number of employees belonging to Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes separately out of them category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***Milk Processing Plant in Assam**

1027. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam had submitted in 1998, a project for a Milk Processing Plant in Assam vetted by the National Dairy Development Board, for promotion of Dairy Industry in the State;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of milk yield in Assam, and the consumption of milk there per day;

(c) the details of excess milk available for processing;

(d) the estimated cost of the project;

(e) the Central aid and IDBI aid sought by the State Government for the purpose; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Central Fund for Unorganised Labour Sector

1028. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide Rs. 1,000 crore towards the Central fund for unorganized sector welfare including pensions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments are also required to contribute towards this fund; and

(d) if so, the ratio of Central and State contributions towards the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Production of Mangoes**

1029. SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of mangoes produced in Gujarat, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu from January 1, 2003 and as on date and its value; and

(b) the production target set during 2003-04 and its estimated value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Information on the quantity of mangoes produced from January 1, 2003 and its value as on date is not available.

(b) Production target for mangoes during 2003-2004 has not been fixed.

*[English]***Maintenance at Airports**

1030. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AAI is responsible for maintenance of all the airports in the country;

(b) if so, whether the AAI has failed to maintain facilities of high standard at various airports particularly at Hyderabad;

(c) whether the public facilities lack in the Hyderabad Airport;

(d) if so, whether any system to assess the standard and efficiency of airport management by AAI exists;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to obviate these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The facilities provided at Hyderabad airport are considered sufficient to handle the volume of passengers using this airport. However, certain improvements are being undertaken at this airport with a view to improve the passenger facilities at the terminal buildings. Certain operational improvements such as extension and resurfacing of runway, apron, construction of a parallel taxi-track & canopy on the city side and improvements to the terminal building so as to increase the efficiency of the airport.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, AAI has engaged the services of an outside agency for conducting customer satisfaction surveys at selected airports in the country. Based on their feedback, improvements are carried out to the various passenger facilities provided at the airports.

(f) upgradation and improvement of the passenger facilities at airports is a continuous process and undertaken based on operational requirements and expansion plans of the airports, traffic requirements and feedback received from customer satisfaction surveys.

Bamboo Dependent Conference

1031. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government did not send any representatives to a bamboo-dependent conference held in Andhra Pradesh during 2002-2003;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are active enough to help bamboo-dependent people;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to help such sections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Ministry is not aware of bamboo-dependent conference held in Andhra Pradesh during 2002-03.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Ministry after convening a meeting of Principal Chief Conservators of Forests of Bamboo-bearing states have submitted 20 proposals

including that of Andhra Pradesh to Planning Commission for funding under National Mission on Bamboo technology and Trade Development with one of the objectives to alleviate poverty and create employment particularly in rural sector. Ministry also ensures that in the afforestation projects funded by National Afforestation and Ecodevelopment Board bamboo is one of the species planted.

Hike in Hotel Tariff

1032. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether both the private and public sector Hotels in the country propose to raise their tariff from October;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this is likely to adversely affect both internal and external traffic of tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India does not regulate the tariff of hotels. This is decided by the hotels according to market conditions and commercial viability. As regards the public sector hotels, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has stated that it does not propose to increase its hotel tariffs from October 2003.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Use of Safdarjung Airport

1033. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has received any proposal from the Confederation of Indian Industries and the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation for leasing out the Safdarjung Airport as an Exhibition Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the AAI constituted a committee to suggest alternative usage of this Airport; and

(d) if so, the suggestions/recommendations given by this Committee alongwith the response of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has received a proposal from Confederation of Indian Industries for possibility of use of Safdarjung Airport land for construction of Convention Centre cum Exhibition Hall. AAI has also received a request from Indian Trade Promotion organisation for leasing out Safdarjung Airport Complex for holding of Exhibitions. Safdarjung airport is an operational airport. However, its use is restricted to VIP aircrafts.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Commissions for Coal Mine Accidents

1034. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of commissions set up following the Coal Mine accidents occurred during the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each such commissions;

(c) the names of the commissions which failed to submit their reports within the stipulated time;

(d) the number of officers indicted by these commissions in their reports; and

(e) the number of officers against whom the Government have taken action on the basis of these reports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Only one Court of Inquiry after the Bagdighi coal mine disaster was constituted during the last three years, under Section 23 of the Mines Act, 1952.

(b) An expenditure of approximately Rs. 14.5 lakhs was incurred on this Court of Inquiry.

(c) the Report of the Court of Inquiry Bagdighi Colliery Accident was received in time.

(d) Report of Court of Inquiry Bagdighi Colliery Accident had indicted 11 officers.

(e) action on the basis of the report against indicted officers is being processed under the provisions of the act.

[English]

Visa-on-Arrival for Foreign Tourists

1035. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposals to grant visa-on-arrival for Chinese tourists within 24 hours; and

(b) if so, the objective behind this special concession?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) There is no proposal at present to grant visa on arrival to Chinese tourists.

(b) Does not arise.

Anti-pollution devices for Electric Crematoriums

1036. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to help the metropolitan local bodies for establishing anti-pollution devices in the electric crematoriums; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Electric crematoria being set up under National River Conservation Plan for abatement of pollution of rivers are being provided with anti-pollution devices at present.

Water Management Policy

1037. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any Water Management Policy that would abolish or reduce the impact of floods in the country and also enhance facilities for irrigation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The National Water Policy-2002 envisages integrated development and management of water resources of the country including the issues of mitigating the impact of floods and for providing irrigation facilities. The provisions incorporated in the National Water Policy, 2002 in respect of flood control and management are as below:

Flood Control and Management

"17.1 There should be a master plan for flood control and management for each flood prone basin.

17.2 Adequate flood-cushion should be provided in water storage projects, wherever feasible, to facilitate better flood management. In highly flood prone areas, flood control should be given overriding consideration in reservoir regulation policy even at the cost of sacrificing some irrigation or power benefits.

17.3 While physical flood protection works like embankments and dykes will continue to be necessary, increased emphasis should be laid on non-structural measures such as flood forecasting and warning, flood plain zoning and flood proofing for the minimisation of losses and to reduce the recurring expenditure on flood relief.

17.4 There should be strict regulation of settlements and economic activity in the flood plain zones along with flood proofing, to minimise the loss of life and property on account of floods.

17.5 The flood forecasting activities should be modernised, value added and extended to other uncovered areas. Inflow forecasting to reservoirs should be instituted for their effective regulation."

The provisions incorporated in the National Water Policy-2002 in respect of enhancing irrigation facilities are as under:

Irrigation

"9.1 Irrigation planning either in an individual project or in a basin as a whole should take into account the irrigability of land, cost-effective irrigation options possible from all available sources of water and appropriate irrigation techniques for optimizing water use efficiency. Irrigation intensity should be such as to extend the benefits of irrigation to as large a number of farm families as possible, keeping in view the need to maximise production.

9.2 There should be a close integration of water-use and land-use policies.

9.3 Water allocation in an irrigation system should be done with due regard to equity and social justice. Disparities in the availability of water between head-reach and tail-end farms and between large and small farms should be obviated by adoption of a rotational water distribution system and supply of water on a volumetric basis subject to certain ceilings and rational pricing.

9.4 Concerted efforts should be made to ensure that the irrigation potential created is fully utilized. For this purpose, the command area development approach should be adopted in all irrigation projects.

9.5 Irrigation being the largest consumer of fresh water, the aim should be to get optimal productivity per unit of water. Scientific water management, farm practices and sprinkler and drip system of irrigation should be adopted wherever feasible.

9.6 Reclamation of water logged/saline affected land by scientific and cost-effective methods should form a part of command area development, programme."

Water being a State subject, all water resources projects including flood management measures and enhancing irrigation facilities are planned, funded and implemented by the concerned State Government.

Export of Agricultural Products

1038. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for increasing export of agricultural products during the last three years;

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made there under during the above period;

(c) the details of various incentives given to farmers to encourage export of their agricultural produce; and

(d) the total export earnings from agricultural export recorded during the last three years and its share in the total exports from India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV).

(a) and (c) The Government provides a variety of incentives in the form of financial and other assistance through its agencies such as Commodity Boards, Authorities, etc. for infrastructure development, modern packaging units, quality improvement and quality control, market development, etc. to promote agricultural exports from India.

(b) Target for agro-exports is in the nature of projections based on past performance and further expectations.

(d) The total export earning from agricultural exports (excluding tea, coffee, marine, cottong incl. waste and castor oil) and its share in the total exports from India during the last three years is as follow:

Year	Exports (Value in Rs. Lakhs)	%share in the total exports
2000-01	1677348.32	8.33
2001-02	1876287.51	8.98
2002-03	2118476.02	8.38

Source-DGCI&S.

[Translation]

Protection of Cow Progeny in Rajasthan

1039. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cow progeny in Rajasthan is about one crore thirty lakhs but about 25 per cent of the cow progeny have perished due to drought for the fourth consecutive year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Cattle population in Rajasthan is 1.21 crores as per 1997 livestock census. The annual growth rate is 0.74% from 1992-1997. The projected cattle population is about 1.27 crores for 2003. There is no report from the State Government on the cow progeny perished due to drought.

(c) Government of India have assisted the State in various ways to combat the effects of drought, such as:

- (1) Rs. 11.66 crores were provided from NCCF for cattle care and feeding in Goshalas/Cattle Camps.
- (2) Organized quality testing of 30,000 MT of cattle feed grade damaged foodgrains allotted to the State from FCI.
- (3) Facilitated free transportation of fodder and water by railways.
- (4) Neighbouring States were impressed upon to make available surplus fodder to Rajasthan.
- (5) All States were requested not to use fodder for industrial purpose, not to burn the straws and minimize loss of fodder during harvesting in order to make available more fodder to the affected cattle in Rajasthan.
- (6) The State was provided additional fodder seed minikits to grow green fodder in suitable areas and supply to the affected cattle population.
- (7) Government of Rajasthan was empowered to make an order under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for regulating the price of fodder and restriction on unauthorized hoarding of fodder within the State.
- (8) Assistance from NCCF/PMRF was provided to Cattle Camps/Goshalas for care and feeding of cattle in pursuance of the *suo moto* announcement made by Hon'ble Prime Minister in December, 2002.

[English]

Corruption in Co-operative Societies

1040. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding corruption in co-operative societies during the last two years in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the societies; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) to (c) Government have received complaints in respect of some cooperative societies over the last two years in the country including Maharashtra. The details of the complaints and action taken are as follows:

- (i) Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank, Mumbai regarding cases of fraudulent practices, irregularities and mismanagement in the functioning of the Bank.

The Board of Management of the Bank was superseded following an inquiry under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act. An Administrator has been appointed for, inter alia, taking remedial steps.

- (ii) Madhenapura Mercantile Cooperative Bank, Ahmedabad regarding severe liquidity problem and mismanagement in the functioning of the Bank.

The Board of Management of the Bank was superseded following an inquiry under the MSCS Act. An Administrator has been appointed for, inter alia, taking remedial steps.

- (iii) Kendriya Bhandar, New Delhi regarding irregularities in inviting tenders, corrupt practices in the purchase and misuse of telephone and staff car by the then Chairman, Kendriya Bhandar.

The inquiry under the provisions of the MSCS Act has revealed no violation of purchase policy and byelaws and no irregularity in the use of staff car.

- (iv) Pradeshik Cooperative Dairy Federation (PCDF) Ltd., Uttar Pradesh regarding procurement of milk from private traders instead of cooperative societies, centralization of charge of Managing Director (PCDF) and Milk Commissioner with Secretary, Govt. of UP, leading to heavy losses

to the milk federation and unions; unauthorized sale of ghee and milk powder by some employees of PCDF and other mismanagement in the PCDF.

The complaint has been referred to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for comments.

Setting up of Sub-Committee by CMC

1041. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cauvery Monitoring Committee (CMC) has decided to set up a sub-committee of technical experts to narrow down the differences among the basin States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the decision taken in the 17th Meeting of Monitoring Committee under Cauvery River Authority (CRA) held on 9th June, 2003 at New Delhi, A Sub-group of Technical Experts was constituted on 11th June, 2003 under the Chairmanship of Commissioner (PR), Ministry of Water Resources with the Technical Representatives of the States of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu UT of Pondicherry as Members. The Sub-group of Technical Experts was required to take into consideration different views expressed by the States through their Technical Representatives and based on these, suggest distress Sharing Formula/Formulas/Formulae within four weeks from the date of its constitution for consideration and adoption of the same by the Monitoring Committee of the CRA. The Sub-group of Technical Experts has held two meetings. In the second meeting held on 7.7.2003 at New Delhi, the Technical Representative of the State of Karnataka circulated a proposal on the sharing of Cauvery waters during the situation of distress. The Chairman of the Sub-group indicated that since proposal is quite elaborate, therefore, this will require the detailed examination by the other party States as well as Central Water Commission and, therefore, requested the Technical Representatives to convey their detailed views to the Sub-group within a week's time. The comments of States of Tamil Nadu have been received on 21.7.2003. Other States have not furnished their comments.

Pulses Production

1042. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of pulses in the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the efforts made by the Government to boost production of pulses during the last two years and the percentage of increase recorded in the production of pulses in these two years; and
- (d) the schemes in operation to boost the production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The production of pulses in the country is short of requirement therefore pulses are being imported to meet the demand and supply gap.

(c) In order to enhance the pulses production in the country, pulses were brought under the purview of technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses. Following amount has been provided in last two years for implementation of pulses development programmes.

Years	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
2001-02	3778.00
2002-03	3100.00

The production of pulses during last two years is given in the following table:

Years	Production (in lakh tones)
2001-02	131.91
2002-03	113.10

(d) A scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is being implemented for increasing the production of pulses in the country. Under the scheme, assistance is being provided for critical inputs like production & distribution of seeds, seed minikits, improved farm implements, rhizobium culture, micro-nutrients, Integrated Pest management and distribution of sprinkler sets,

Gypsum, nuclear polyhedrosis virus (NPV) etc. In addition frontline and block demonstrations are also organized on farmers fields for transfer of technology.

Water Crisis

1043. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Union Government have received reports from many States that their lakes and wells have dried and cities have been forced to ration the water supply;
- (b) if so, whether the Central Ground Water Authority has conducted any survey in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) As per observations made by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), significant decline in the levels of ground water have been observed in certain pockets in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, NCT of Delhi, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In some such areas, hand pumps and tubewells are reported to have become defunct.

(d) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Government has initiated following measures to augment ground water resources in the country:-

- (i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country;
- (ii) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rain Water Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crore for implementation during the X Plan. The scheme is at consultation stage.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area

specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

- (iv) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.
- (v) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (vi) Constitution of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (vii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwbindia.com) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

[*Translation*]

Development of Tourist Places

1044. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI:
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for development of tourist places in the State during 2003-04;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked/released to the State Government for the purpose; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Tourism projects are identified in consultation with the State Government/UT Administrations and sanctioned on merits, subject to availability of funds and inter-se priority. It has been decided to take up development works in Rajasthan State at Ajmer Sharif and Pushkar during 2003-04. The

concerned agencies have been asked to prepare detailed plan and estimates.

[*English*]

Ban on Monsanto India Ltd. for Maize Seed

1045. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has banned Monsanto India Limited a subsidiary of the US multinational for selling sub-standard and contaminated Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize seed, as they failed to germinate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total loss suffered by the farmers on this account and whether any compensation has been paid to the farmers by Monsanto India Limited;

(d) whether any other State also experimented with the Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize seed supplied by this company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information received from Department of Agriculture, Government of Bihar and M/s. Monsanto India Limited, no quantity of maize seed under the brand name "Cargill" has been sold by M/s Monsanto India Limited in Bihar during the year 2002-03. As per information received from Monsanto Company, Cargill Seeds India Ltd. was acquired by Monsanto Technologies India Limited was changed to Monsanto India Ltd. Till 2001 the seeds were sold under the brand name Cargill 900 M. Subsequently in 2001, the name Cargill 900 M was changed and the product marketed under brand name ASGROW 900 M. In May 2002, the brand name was again changed to "Super 900 M", which is currently in use. Monsanto India Ltd. sold 2418.59 MTs of seeds of maize hybrids, including 1166.92 MTs of 900 M in the state of Bihar during Winter 2002-2003 season. No case of failure of maize seed of Hybrid 900 M on account of germination was reported to this Department.

(c) No case of the losses suffered by the farmer on account of failure of germination of maize seed of Monsanto India Ltd. in Bihar has been reported to this

Deptt. According to the information made available by the company, no compensation to the farmers has been paid by the Monsanto India Ltd.

(d) and (e) As mentioned in reply of part a & b, as such no Cargill Hybrid 900 M Maize Seed was supplied by Monsanto India Limited to any of the State during winter 2002-2003 season. However, the seed of maize hybrid 900 M, Hishell and All Rounder was supplied by Monsanto India Ltd. in the State of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh in addition to Bihar, during the season 2002-2003.

The State-wise & Hybrid-wise details of quantities of seed sold by the company in these States are given as under:

Rabi Season 2002-2003 (Winter)

(Quantity in MT)

S.No.	States	900M	Hishell	All Rounder
1.	Maharashtra	120	100	100
2.	Karnataka	1500	150	300
3.	Tamil Nadu	600	400	20
4.	Andhra Pradesh	650	350	100
5.	U.P.	60	50	40
6.	Gujarat	100	100	150
7.	M.P.	200	50	50

No complaint in regard to the performance of these hybrids has been received by this Department from any of the above mentioned States.

**Conversion of Forest Land Into
Non-Forest Land**

1046. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allowed certain State Governments to convert forest villages into revenue villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the forest land in the country is being illegally encroached upon and also converted for other purposes;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether any physical survey of the forest land have been conducted by the Union Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Proposals have been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. So far the Central Government have allowed conversion of 94 forest villages into revenue villages in five districts of Madhya Pradesh and 73 forest villages in Nandurbar District of Maharashtra, as per the National Forest Policy, 1988 and the guidelines issued in September, 1990.

(c) and (d) As reported by various State/Union Territory Governments; around 13.5 lakh hectare of forest land is under encroachment in the country. The Central Government have issued directions to all the State Governments on 3.5.2002 to evict all in-eligible encroaches from the forest lands in a time-bound manner.

(e) and (f) Operational aspects of forest management are the responsibility of the various State/Union Territory Governments. Central Government does not conduct such physical survey suo motto. Central Government relies on the information submitted by various State Governments in this regard as and when required.

Afforestation along River Banks

1047. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to launch a scheme under which ditches would be dug in the river bed and river banks would undergo afforestation in a big way in order to check pollution in the river Ganga;

(b) if so, by when this scheme is going to be launched;

(c) whether this scheme is a part of Ganga Action Plan;

(d) the amount already spent on Ganga Action Plan and the amount earmarked for this new scheme so far; and

(e) the details of works carried out, if any, under the scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) No scheme has been launched so far by the Government under Ganga Action Plan to dig ditches in the river bed and have afforestation in a big way along the river banks to check the pollution of river Ganga. However, a small component of afforestation is being taken up in various towns under the Ganga Action Plan at an approved cost of Rs. 1.65 crore. The total amount released so far by the Central Government for implementation of Ganga Action Plan Phase-I & II in various towns along the river is Rs. 580.53 crore.

River-Linking Project

1048. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting on river-networking was recently held in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Chairman of National Water-Development Task Force also participated in the said meeting;

(c) the details of deliberations held in the meeting alongwith outcome thereof;

(d) whether River Grid Project has been included in the latest annual report of the Ministry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The 3rd Meeting of Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers was held at New Delhi on 28th April, 2003 under the chairmanship of Chairman, Task Force, Shri Suresh P. Prabhu, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha).

(c) (i) The Task Force took note of the massive work done by National Water Development Agency (NWDA) during the last 21 years since 1982, in identifying feasible links round the country under two components, namely (a) Himalayan Component (14 links) and (b) Peninsular Component (16 links) to meet the desired objectives.

(ii) The Task Force then approved the NWDA proposal to complete the remaining feasibility studies by the end of December, 2005 so as to arrive at a further course of action.

(iii) It was decided to open a dialogue with concerned States, for the links and after receipt of confirmation, the selected links could be taken up for preparation of detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

(iv) The Task Force decided to formulate procedures for DPR preparation in consultation with the National Agencies and institutions. Inter-alia, it was decided to give a detailed look to the techno-economic, environmental, social, administrative, managerial and financial issues involved to arrive at a realistic benefit cost analysis.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The latest Annual Report of the Ministry of Water Resources i.e. for the year 2002-2003, contains a Chapter on the NWDA at pages 98 to 103. The Chapter describes the constitution and objectives of NWDA, National Perspective Plan proposals and constitution of Task Force. It has a map of India depicting the inter-basin water transfer links and two bar diagrams indicating the status of studies for Peninsular and Himalayan Component of National Perspective Plan proposal.

Strengthening of Ariana Afghan Airlines

1049. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to assist in strengthening fledging Ariana Afghan Airlines, flagship carrier of Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed between the concerned parties in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Three Airbus A 300 B4 aircraft owned by Air-India were handed over to Ariana Afghan Airlines, flagship carrier of Afghanistan. Air-India provided training to 6 Pilots, 3 Flight Engineers, 12 Flight Despatchers and 18 Cabin Crew members of Ariana Afghan Airlines as also Cabin Crew Members was also trained as an Instructor. Air-India also provided maintenance support for the 3 A 300 B4 aircraft.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A four party Agreement between the Government of India, Air-India, Transitional Islamic Government of Afghanistan and Ariana Afghan Airlines was entered on September 2, 2002. In accordance with this Agreement, Air-India handed over 3 A 300 B4 aircraft along with basic support spares valued approx. USD 1,000,000. As per the above Agreement, Air-India also provided training to their personnel as well as maintenance support to the 3 Airbus A 300 B4 aircraft.

Promotion of Organic Cultivation of Horticultural Crops in Mango Belt

1050. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NABARD plans to promote organic cultivation of horticultural crops in mango belt in the Southern districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NABARD has earmarked funds for such projects for other States like Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NABARD has identified organic farming as one of the thrust areas and has sanctioned one project for promotion of organic cultivation of Alphonso mango to Central Bank of India in Savadipatti Village in Theni district of Tamil Nadu covering an area of 54 hectare involving NABARD refinance of Rs. 90 lakh.

(c) and (d) NABARD has not received any proposal for organic cultivation of horticulture crops in other States like Madhya Pradesh.

Ban on Discos in ITDC Hotels in Delhi

1051. DR. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to ban discos at ITDC hotels in Delhi and introduce classical music and dances;

(b) if so, whether this would not have adverse impact on tourism;

(c) if so, whether this ban would be applicable to private hotels also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) All hotels in India including ITDC Hotels (disinvested/under disinvestment) and private hotels have to function in accordance with the existing Laws of Land and ensure that the cultural performances and music and dance functions are conducted in such a manner that they do not infringe the provisions of law on the subject. No other direction/advice has been issued to any hotel in this regard.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Farmers in Distress

1052. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are undergoing distress despite harvesting bountiful crops;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn up a long term strategy to pre-empt such situation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Wholesale Prices of certain agricultural commodities are ruling below the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) at some selected centers in the country.

(b) and (c) The prices of agricultural commodities are constantly reviewed and necessary corrective steps are taken whenever required. The various steps taken by the Government to mitigate the hardships faced by the farmers on this account include fixation of MSPs of major

agricultural commodities and procurement thereof through public and cooperative agencies implementation of Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) covering horticulture and minor items of produce at the request of the state Governments and using instruments of trade to discourage imports and encourage exports.

Corruption in ICAR

1053. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some officers whose names have been displayed on CVC website for major penalty due to their involvement in corruption have been working in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and that is too on sensitive areas;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the staff side HQJSC has represented against such irregular appointment and postings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The list of the CVC containing the names of the officers against whom major penalty action has been taken, does not contain any names of the ICAR officers.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The representations made by HQJSC have been examined and found to be without any basis.

(d) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Milk

1054. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the health of about five percent people is being adversely affected by consuming milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have achieved the target of getting one thousand litre milk per annum per milching animal;

(d) if not, the remedial efforts made in this regard; and

(e) the policy of the Government to ensure the smooth supply of milk at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No such report has come to the notice of Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The average yield of milk per milching animal for the year 2000-01 was 1045 liters for cow and 1521 liters for buffalo.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying in Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by implementing various plan schemes for increasing milk production which would ensure smooth supply of milk at reasonable prices. The schemes are as under:

- (i) National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding.
- (ii) Assistance to states for Feed and Fodder Development.
- (iii) Assistance to states for Control of Animal Diseases.
- (iv) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.
- (v) Assistance to Co-operatives.
- (vi) Integrated Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)

Agriculture as a Profitable Occupation

1055. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to make agriculture a profitable and viable occupation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) In addition to the present policy of price support, subsidy measures and risk management through National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, it is proposed to introduce a new central sector scheme on Hi-tech Horticulture and Precision Farming during current year with a view to diversify agriculture into horticulture, floriculture, etc. which have more promising gains and remunerative returns. Major components of the Scheme will be use of hi-tech interventions like use of biotechnological tools, green food production and hi-tech green houses. Under the new proposed Scheme, during the current financial year, a sum of Rs. 50 crores has been allocated. The combination of all such efforts will increase the income and profits of the farmers making agriculture a profitable and viable occupation.

Additional Employment in Agriculture Sector

1056. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed a target for generating additional employment opportunities in agriculture sector in order to achieve the target of generating one crore additional employment opportunities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assigned the responsibility for technology upgradation in labour-oriented, agriculture production sector at any research institute;

(d) if so, the name of the research institute; and

(e) by when upgraded technology is likely to be marketed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Tenth Plan envisages generation of 50 million employment opportunities in the five years (2002-07). Out of this, there will be 9.47 million employment generation in the agriculture sector itself in the Tenth Plan through various schemes in the areas of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Horticulture, Farm Management, Agri-clinics, Seed Production, Tractors, etc.

(c) Technology generation and upgradation is a continuous process which is being undertaken by the National Agricultural Research System comprising of 47 National Research Institutes, 5 National Bureaux, 12 Project Directorates and 33 National Research Centres.

(d) Names of the Institutes are given in the Statement enclosed.

(e) Several technologies have been upgraded and marketed. Efforts are underway on continuous basis.

Statement

*List of Directors of ICAR Institutes/Project Directors/
National Research Centres/Bureaux*

Crop Sciences

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Dr. S. Nagarajan,
Director,
Indian Agricultural
Research Institute,
Pusa, New Delhi-110 012</p> <p>2. Dr. C.D. Mayee,
Director,
Central Institute for
Cotton Research,
P.B. No. 2,
Shankamagar Post Office,
Nagpur-440 001 (Maharashtra).</p> | <p>3. Dr. D. Nath,
Director,
Central Research Institute for
Jute & Allied Fibres,
Barrackpore, Kolkata-700 120
(West Bengal).</p> <p>4. Dr. S.G. Sharma,
Director (Acting),
Central Rice Research Institute,
Cuttack-753 006
Orissa.</p> <p>5. Dr. K.D. Singh,
Director,
Central Tobacco Research Institute,
Rajahmundry-533 105
(Andhra Pradesh).</p> <p>6. Dr. P.S. Pathak,
Director,
Indian Grassland &
Fodder Research Institute,
Pahuj Dam,
Jhansi-Gwalior Road,
Jhansi-284 003 (UP).</p> <p>7. Dr. Masood Ali,
Director,
Indian Institute of
Pulses Research,
Kalyanpur,
Kanpur-208 024 (Uttar Pradesh).</p> <p>8. Dr. J.L. Karihaloo,
NRC on DNA Fingerprinting,
National Bureau of
Plant Genetic Resources,
New Delhi-110 012.</p> <p>9. Dr. S.R. Mishra,
Director,
Indian Institute of
Sugarcane Research,
P.O. Dilkusha,
Lucknow-226 002 (Uttar Pradesh).</p> <p>10. Dr. B.S. Dhillon,
Director,
National Bureau of
Plant Genetic Resources,
Pusa Compus,
New Delhi-110 012.</p> <p>11. Prof. Amerika Singh,
Director,
National Integrated Centre on
Pest Management, (NICPM),
Pusa, New Delhi-110 012.</p> <p>12. Dr. N. Balasundaram,
Director,
Sugarcane Breeding Institute,
Coimbatore-641 007 (Tamil Nadu).</p> |
|---|--|

13. Dr. H.S. Gupta,
Director,
Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi
Anusandhan Shala,
Almora-263 601 (Uttaranchal).
14. Dr. M.S. Basu,
Off. Director,
National Research
Centre for Groundnut,
Ivnagar Road, P.B. No. 5,
Junagadh-362 001 (Gujarat).
15. Dr. U.R. Murthy,
Director,
National Research
Centre for Sorghum,
All India Coordinated
Sorghum Improvement Project,
Rajendranagar,
Hyderabad-500 030 (A.P.).
16. Dr. B.N. Singh,
Project Director,
Directorate of Rice Research,
Rajendranagar,
Hyderabad-500 003 (A.P.).
17. Dr. D.M. Hegde,
Project Director,
Directorate of Oilseed Research,
Rajendranagar,
Hyderabad-500 003 (A.P.).
18. Dr. D.S. Chauhan,
Acting Project Director (Wheat),
Directorate of Wheat Research,
P.O. Box No. 158,
Kunjipura Road,
Karnal-125 001 (Haryana).
19. Dr. R.J. Rabindra,
Project Director,
Project Directorate of
Biological Control,
P.B. No. 2491, H.A. Farm Post,
Bellary Road, Hebbal,
Bangalore-560 024 (Karnataka).
20. Dr. Arvind Kumar
Director,
National Research Centre for
Rapeseed Mustard, Sewar,
Bhatratpur-321 303 (Rajasthan).
21. Dr. N.N. Singh,
Project Director (Maize),
Directorate of Maize Research,
Indian Agricultural Research Institute,
New Delhi-110012
22. Dr. K.R. Koundal,
Project Director,
National Research Centre on
Plant Biotechnology,
Indian Agricultural Research Institute,
New Delhi-110012
23. Dr. O.P. Joshi,
Officiating Director,
National Research Centre for Soybean,
Khandwa Road,
Indore-452017 (MP)
24. Prof. D.K. Arora,
Director,
National Bureau of Agriculturally Important
Micro—Organisms (NBPGR Old Building)
Pusa, Compus, New Delhi-110012
- HORTICULTURE
25. Dr. R.K. Pathak,
Director,
Central Institute for
Sub-tropical Horticulture,
Rehmankhhera, P.O. Kakori,
Lucknow-227107 (Uttar Pradesh)
26. Dr. S. Edison,
Director,
Central Tuber Crops
Research Institute, Sreekartiyam,
Thiruvananthapuram-695017
(Kerala)
27. Dr. V. Rajagopal,
Director,
Central Plantation Crops
Research Institute,
Kasaragod-670124 (Kerala)
28. Dr. S.M. Paul Khurana,
Director,
Central Potato Research Institute,
Shimla-171001
(Himachal Pradesh)
29. Dr. S.D. Shikhamani,
Director,
Indian Institute of Horticulture Research,
Hassaraghatta Lake Post,
Bangalore-560089
(Karnataka)
30. Dr. M. Gopalakrishna,
Director (Acting),
National Research Centre for Cashew,
Puttur-574202, D.K.
(Karnataka)
31. Dr. Shyam Singh,
Director,
National Research Centre for Citrus,
Post Box No. 464,
Shankarnagar Post Office
Nagpur-440010 (Maharashtra)
32. Dr. S.R. Sharma,
Acting Director,
National Research Centre
for Mushroom,
Chambaghat, Solan-173213 (H.P.)

33. Dr. V.A. Parthasarthy,
Director,
Indian Institute of
Spices Research,
P.B. No. 1701, Marikunnu P.O.,
Calicut 673012 (Kerala)
34. Dr. M.K. Banerjee,
Acting Director,
Indian Instt. of Vegetable Research,
(NARIA) I-Gandhi Nagar,
P.O. Box No. 5002,
P.O. BHU, Varanasi-221005
(Uttar Pradesh)
35. Dr. D.G. Dhandar,
Director,
Central Institute for Arid Horticulture,
Sriganga Nagar Road,
Bachwal Industrial Area P.O.,
Bikaner-334006 (Rajasthan)
36. Dr. A.A. Sofi,
Director,
Central Institute for
Temperate Horticulture,
P.O. Sanat Nagar,
Srinagar,
Kashmir-190005 (J&K)
37. Dr. V.M. Reddy,
Acting Director,
National Research Centre for
Oilpalm, Near Tawahar
Navodaya Vidyalay,
Pedavegi-534450
West Godavari District (A.P.)
38. Dr. R.C. Upadhyaya,
Incharge,
National Research Centre for
Orchids,
Pakyong-737106 (Sikkim)
39. Dr. P.G. Adsule,
Acting Director,
National Research Centre
for Grapes, P.B. No. 3,
Manjari Farm Post,
Solapur Road, Pune-412 307
Maharashtra.
40. Dr. S. Maiti,
Director,
National Research Centre for
Medicinal & Aromatic Plants,
Borivai,
Anda-387 310 (Gujarat).
41. Dr. K.E. Lawande,
Director,
National Research Centre
for Onion & Garlic,
Rajgurunagar-410 505
(Maharashtra)
42. Dr. S. Sathia Moorthy,
Director,
National Research Centre for Banana,
No. 44, Ramalingam Nagar,
Velvur Road,
Trichy-620 017 (T.N.)
43. Dr. B.B. Vashishtha,
Acting Director,
National Research Centre
On Seed Spices,
At Tabiji Near Ajmer (Rajasthan)
44. Dr. Matgura Rai, OSD,
National Research Centre for Manchi House,
Club Road, Muzaffarpur-842 002 Bihar.
45. Dr. Janardan Jee,
OSD & Prin. Scl.
National Research Centre for Makhana,
Camp office
C.P.R.S., P.O. Ahayanagar,
Patna-891 506, Bihar.
- National Resource Management (NRM)**
46. Dr. S. Subramanian,
Director Incharge,
ICAR Research Complex for Goa,
Ela Old, Goa-403 402.
47. Dr. R.B. Rai,
Director (Acting),
Central Agricultural Research Institute,
Post Box No. 181, Port Blair-744 101.
48. Dr. Pratap Narain,
Director,
Central Arid Zone Research Institute
Jodhpur-342 003 (Rajasthan).
49. Dr. Y.S. Ramakrishna,
Director,
Central Research Institute
for Dryland Agriculture,
Santosh Nagar, Saidabad P.O.,
Hyderabad-500 059 (A.P.)
50. Dr. N.K. Tyagi,
Director,
Central Soil Salinity
Research Institute,
Zarifa Farm, Kachwa Road,
Kamal-132 001. Haryana.
51. Dr. K.M. Bujarbarua,
Director,
ICAR Research Complex for
North Eastern Hill Region,
Umroi Road,
Barapani 793 103, Meghalaya.
52. Dr. V.N. Sharda,
Director,
Central Soil & Water Conservation
Research & Training Institute,
218, Kaulagarh Road,
Dehradun 248 195,
Uttar Pradesh.

53. Dr. D.L.N. Rao,
Director (Officiating),
Indian Institute of Soil Sciences,
Nabi Bagh, Berasia Road,
Bhopal 462 038,
Madhya Pradesh.
54. Dr. A.K. Sikka,
Director,
ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region
Walmi Complex, P.O. Phulwari Sharf,
Patna-801 505 (Bihar)
55. Dr. K.S. Gajbhiye,
Director,
National Bureau of Soil
Survey and Land Use Planning,
Shankar Nagar, Amravati Road,
Nagpur 440 010, Maharashtra.
56. Dr. P. Rai
Director (Acting),
National Research Centre for Agroforestry,
Near Pahuj Dam, Gwalior Road,
Jhansi-284 003, Madhya Pradesh.
57. Dr. N.T. Yaduraju,
Director,
National Research Centre for Weed Sciences,
M.P. Housing Colony Maharajpur,
Adhartal Jabalpur-482 004 (M.P.).
58. Dr. S.K. Sharma,
Project Director,
Directorate of Cropping
System Research, Modipuram,
Meerut 250 110, (U.P.).
59. Dr. H.N. Verma,
Director,
Water Technology Centre
for Eastern Region,
Near Nalco Nagar,
Chander Shakharpur,
Bhubaneswar-751 012 (Orissa).

Agricultural Engineering

60. Dr. Nawab Ali
Director,
Central Institute of Agricultural
Engineering,
Nabibagh Berasia Road,
Bhopal-462 038 (Madhya Pradesh).
61. Dr. S.M. Ilyas,
Director,
Central Institute of Post Harvest
Engg. and Technology,
PAU Campus, Ludhiana 141 004.
62. Dr. S.M. Ilyas,
Director,
Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering
Technology, Abohar-152 116,
Ferozpur, Punjab.

63. Dr. S. Sreenivasan,
Director,
Central Institute for Research
on Cotton Technology,
P.B. No. 16640,
Adenwala Road, Matunga,
Mumbai 400 019 (Maharashtra).
64. Dr. K.K. Kumar,
Acting Director,
Indian Lac Research Institute,
Ranchi 834 010, Bihar.
65. Dr. S.K. Bhattacharyya,
Director,
National Institute of Research on
Jute & Allied Fibre Technology,
Regent Park, Kolkata-700 040 (W.B.).
66. Dr. S.D. Kulkarni,
Project Director,
Project on Soyabean
Processing and Utilization,
Central Institute of agricultural
Engineering, Nabi Bagh Berasia Road,
Bhopal-462 038 (M.P.).

Agricultural Extension

67. Dr. (Mrs.) Hema Pandey,
Director,
National Research Centre
for Women in Agriculture,
93-Dharma Vihar,
Khandagiri-P.O.
Bhubaneswar 751 030 (Orissa).

Animal Sciences

68. Dr. T.S. Johri
Director (Actg.),
Central Avian Research Institute,
Izatnagar 243 122,
Uttar Pradesh.
69. Dr. B.S. Punia
Director,
Central Institute for Research
on Buffaloes, Sirsa Road,
Hisar-125 001 (Haryana).
70. Dr. Nagendra Sharma,
Director,
Central Institute for Research on Goats,
Makhdoom, P.O. Farah,
Mathura-281 122.
71. Dr. Vijai, Kumar Singh,
Director,
Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute,
Tehsil Malpura, Distt. Tonk,
Via-Jaipur-304 501 (Rajasthan).

72. Dr. Nagendra Sharma
Additional Director,
National Dairy Research Institute,
Karnal-132 001 (Haryana).
73. Dr. M.P. Yadav,
director,
Indian Veterinary Research Institute,
Izatnagar-243 122, (U.P.).
74. Dr. S.P.S. Ahlawat
Director,
National Bureau of Animal
Genetic Resources,
P.O. Box No. 129,
Karnal-132 001.
75. Dr. Mohan Singh Sahani,
Director,
National Research Centre.
on Camel, Jorbeer,
P.O. Box No. 7,
Bikaner-334 001 (Rajasthan).
76. Dr. S.K. Dwivedi,
Director,
National Research Centre on Equines,
Sirsa Road,
Hisar-125 001 (Haryana).
77. Dr. T.R.K. Murthy.
OSD,
National Research Centre on Meat, Saidabad,
CRIDA Campus, Hyderabad-500 059 (A.P.).
78. Dr. C. Raj Khowa,
Director,
National Research Centre on Mithun,
Jharnapani, Medziphema
Nagaland-797 106.
79. Dr. Kirpal Singh,
Director,
Project Directorate on Cattle,
PH-7, Pallavpuram, Phase-II,
Modipuram,
Meerut-250 110 (Uttar Pradesh).
80. Dr. R.P. Sharma,
Project Director,
Project Directorate on Poultry,
Rajendranagar,
Hyderabad-500 030 (A.P.).
81. Dr. Khub Singh,
Director,
National Institute of Animal
Nutrition & Physiology,
Adugodi, Bangalore-560 030.
82. Dr. M. Bhattacharya,
Director,
National Research Centre
on Yak, Dirang, West Kameng,
(Arunachal Pradesh)-790 101.
83. Dr. M. Rajasekhar,
Project Director,
Project Directorate on Animal Disease
Monitoring and Surveillance,
Hebbal, Bangalore-560 024 (Karnataka).
84. Dr. S.K. Bandyopadhyay,
Acting Project Director (FMD).
Project Directorate on Foot &
Mouth Disease,
IVRI Campus,
Mukteswar-Kumaon,
Distt. Nainital-263 138 (Uttaranchal).
85. Dr. H.K. Pradhan,
Director,
High Security Animal Disease Laboratory,
Hathai Kheda Farm,
Anand Nagar,
Bhopal-462 021.
- Fisheries**
86. Dr. Mathew Abraham,
Acting Director,
Central Institute of
Brackishwater Aquaculture,
Chennai-600 028 (Tamil Nadu).
87. Dr. V.V. Sugunan,
Officiating Director,
Central Inland Capture
Fisheries Research Institute,
Barrackpore, Kalkota,
West Bengal-743 101.
88. Dr. Kaja Janaki Ram,
Director,
Central Institute of
Freshwater Aquaculture,
P.O. Kausalyaganga,
Via Bhubaneshwar-751 002,
(Orissa).
89. Dr. K. Devadasan,
Director,
Central Institute of Fisheries
Technology, Willingdon Island,
Kochi-682 029 (Kerala).
90. Dr. Mohan Joseph Modayil,
Director,
Central Marine Fisheries
Research Institute,
P.B. No. 1603, Ernakulam,
Cochin-682 014 (Kerala).

91. Dr. S.C. Mukherjee,
Acting Director,
Central Institute of Fisheries
Education, Jaiprakash Road,
Seven Bungalows, Versova,
Mumbai-400 061 (Maharashtra).

92. Dr. D. Kapoor,
Director,
National Bureau of Fish
Genetic Resources,
Canal Ring Road,
P.O. Dilkushe,
Telibagh, Lucknow-226 002 (U.P.).

93. Dr. K.K. Vass,
Director,
National Research Centre
on Coldwater Fisheries,
Bhimtal-263 136
Distt. Nainital (Uttaranchal).

Management

94. Dr. B.N. Mathur,
Director,
National Academy of
Agricultural Research Mgt.
Rajendranagar,
Hyderabad-500 030 (A.P.)

95. Dr. S.D. Sharma,
Director,
Indian Agricultural
Statistics Research Institute,
Library Avenue, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012

96. Dr. Mruthyunjaya,
Director,
National Centre for Agricultural
Economics and Policy Research,
Library Avenue, Pusa,
New Delhi-110 012

97. Shri K.N. Kumar,
Director,
National Centre for Values and Ethics,
ICAR, Room No. 206,
Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

(English)

Promotion of Big Orchards

1057. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken steps
for the promotion of big orchards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including assistance
provided to the States for the purpose; and

(c) the names of the districts of Orissa for which
financial assistance provided for the purpose and the
nature of other assistance provided, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir. The National Horticulture Board (NHB) under
the scheme "Development of Commercial Horticulture
through Production and Post Harvest Management"
provides back-ended capital investment subsidy @ not
exceeding 20% of the total project cost with a maximum
limit of Rs. 25.00 lakh per project for hi-tech cultivation
projects including big orchards throughout the country
which are found technically and financially viable. For the
North Eastern/Tribal/Hilly areas, maximum limit of subsidy
would be Rs. 30.00 lakh per project.

(b) Under the above scheme, financial assistance is
provided to the individual entrepreneurs and not to the
States. The assistance provided to the entrepreneurs for
promotion of big orchard in various States during 2002-
03 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) In Khurda district of Orissa, financial assistance
of Rs. .73 lakh was provided for one project during 2002-
03 for the promotion of big orchard.

Statement

*Details of Assistance provided under "Development of
Commercial Horticulture through Production & Post
Harvest Management" during 2002-03*

(Rs. In lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	2002-03	
		No. of Projects	Subsidy sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	76.48
2.	Gujarat	43	292.00
3.	Haryana	1	3.86
4.	Karnataka	77	417.33

1	2	3	4
5.	Maharashtra	29	157.54
6.	Tamil Nadu	18	79.69
7.	M.P.	1	1.99
8.	Orissa	1	1.73
9.	Nagaland	3	5.18
Total		186	1035.8

Agricultural Projects by Foreign Countries

1058. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agricultural projects being funded/proposed to be funded by the foreign countries in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the present status of such on-going agricultural projects, State-wise;

(c) whether any fresh projects seeking external assistance have been received from any State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds to States for Tourism Development

1059. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 364 on December 16, 2002 and state:

(a) whether financial assistance for tourism development in the States is almost half of the amount sanctioned each year;

(b) if so, the reasons alongwith the amount sanctioned and released during 2002-2003, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) During the 9th Plan, normally 30% of the sanctioned amount was released for tourism infrastructure projects as first instalment. Subsequent instalments were released after utilisation of previous instalments. However, now higher percentage of sanctioned amount is also released depending on requirements and availability of funds. State-wise details of projects sanctioned and amounts released during 2002-2003 by the Tourism Department are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned during the year 2002-03

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Project Sanctioned	Amt. Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38
10.	J&K	3	94.38	89.47
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49
13.	Kerala	11	861.36	829.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	546.25
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16	48.46
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50	323.43
20.	Orissa	2	47.50	15.75
21.	Punjab	3	23.00	14.60
22.	Rajasthan	13	1098.70	1096.20
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24	269.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	559.00	316.10
25.	Tripura	5	216.13	67.78
26.	Uttanchal	3	548.00	418.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00	295.00
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10	60.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75	6.63
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	8.07	6.46
32.	Delhi	14	504.00	449.02
33.	Daman & Diu	3	49.50	16.90
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87	6.30
Total		212	11121.10	8680.93

[Translation]

Revival of Historic Ponds

1060. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a plan for the identification and revival of various ponds but about thousand years ago during the Chandela period in Mahoba district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the following six tanks of Chandela period declared as of national importance by the Archaeological Survey of India, in the Mahoba District of Uttar Pradesh are conserved, preserved and maintained as per archaeological principles;

1. Four Chandella Temples and a Small Masonry Tank, Akona, Tehsil Kulpahar.
2. Brahma Tal, Kabrai, Tehsil Mahoba.
3. Lake of Keerat Sagar, Malkapura, Tehsil Mahoba.
4. Lake of Vijay Sagar, Vijay Sagar, Tehsil Mahoba.
5. Large Chandela tank, Rawatpur, Tehsil Kulpahar.
6. Lake of Madan Sagar, Madan Sagar, Tehsil Mahoba.

The expenditure incurred during the last three years is as under:

2000-01	Rs. 1,50,000/-
2001-02	Rs. 81, 184/-
2002-03	Rs. 5,13,182/-
Provision for 2003-04	Rs. 11,00,000/-

[Translation]

Creation of New Employment Opportunities

1061. SHRI J.S. BRAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new avenues for employment have shrunk due to ban on creation of posts in Government and the VRSs offered by PSUs and Banks;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to create new employment opportunities for unemployed youths in the country; and

(c) the number of new jobs in different categories likely to be created in 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Though employment in the Government and Public Sector Undertakings has marginally gone down, the overall employment in the economy which was of the order off 374 million during 1993-94 has gone up to 397 million during 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) Government is targeting creation of 50 million employment opportunities at the rate of 10 million per year during the Tenth Plan Period which include the year 2003-04. These will be created through normal growth process as well as through special employment generation programme.

Ground Service of AI

1062. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:
SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the steps taken to improve ground other foreign airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): As an ongoing exercise, Air India has provided following facilities to improve its ground services to make it competitive:- (i) Special services unit to facilitate first/executive class passengers; this facility has also been extended to economy class passengers fro up to 20 per cent of the aircraft capacity on the India/UK/Europe/USA, (ii) tele check-in facility, (iii) advanced seat reservation facilities for all class passengers on Internet, (iv) Kerbside check-in facility for first/executive class passengers at CSI airport, (v) Maharaja lounge facility, (vi) Interline through check-in-facility, (vii) launching of Frequent Flyer Programme, Maharaja Club, Leading Edge Club programmes, (viii) baggage of first/executive class passengers labelled with priority baggage tags and loaded in specially designated containers, (ix) First/Executive class passengers entitled

to Hotel accommodation at AI cost accommodated in a higher category of specially designated hotels, and (x) call center to provide 24 hours information to passengers on a toll free number.

Promotion of Agro Forestry and Horticulture

1063. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote agro-forestry and horticulture in the country particularly in Bihar;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the financial assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Department of Land Resources is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Technology Development Extension and Training for Development of Non-Forest Wastelands. Under this Scheme, pilot projects are sanctioned to various State Agricultural Universities/ ICAR Institutes for testing Agro-Forestry modals in different agro-climatic regions of the country, including Bihar. Besides, the Indian Council of Agriculture-Supplementation/ Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plans, assistance is being extended to all the State Governments to take up diversified farming systems in the arable and non-arable lands in the identified watersheds in the Rainfed Areas as well as in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers. Under this Scheme, assistance is also being extended for the development of horticultural crops in the country.

(d) The State-wise details of financial assistance provided by the Department of Land Resources and the ICAR is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise Funds Released under various Projects on Agro Forestry

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	Department of Land Resources		ICAR		
		1993-94 to 2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.10	17.55	18.00	10.01	10.00
2.	Assam			9.00	12.30	3.00
3.	Bihar			4.80	4.80	-
4.	Chhattisgarh	22.76		6.49	6.49	6.00
5.	Gujarat			14.74	14.74	19.69
6.	Haryana			12.42	12.42	13.85
7.	Himachal Pradesh			12.94	12.94	16.05
8.	J & K			7.62	7.62	8.00

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9. <i>Jharkhand</i>					6.25	6.25	5.00
10. <i>Karnataka</i>					11.00	11.00	17.45
11. <i>Kerala</i>					12.97	12.97	4.00
12. <i>Maharashtra</i>		15.44			57.14	57.14	63.13
13. <i>Madhya Pradesh</i>					11.05	11.05	16.64
14. <i>Meghalaya</i>		7.20	4.87				-
15. <i>Orissa</i>		70.48			9.90	9.90	11.00
16. <i>Punjab</i>					13.15	13.15	7.00
17. <i>Rajasthan</i>			2.21		8.50	8.50	-
18. <i>Tamil Nadu</i>		19.28			23.25	23.25	17.00
19. <i>Uttar Pradesh</i>		25.22	31.22		29.25	29.25	18.33
20. <i>Uttaranchal</i>		9.97	5.50		16.00	16.00	7.72
21. <i>West Bengal</i>					9.52	9.52	15.08

Artificial Recharge Experiments in States

1064. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has conducted artificial recharge experiments in various States, including Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith new areas identified by the CGWA for further experiments, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government are contemplating to make it, mandatory for all Government, Private buildings, commercial complexes and multi-storied apartments to install rain water harvesting system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith concrete measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has implemented a Central Sector Scheme on 'Study of Recharge to Ground Water' under which

174 artificial recharge schemes have been taken up in various States/Union Territories of the country, including Gujarat. State-wise details of recharge projects taken up under the scheme are given in Statement-I enclosed. The CGWB has also proposed for approval a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rain Water Harvesting" for implementation during the X Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crore. State-wise, number of recharge structures to be taken up under the proposed scheme is given in Statement-II enclosed.

(c) and (d) Water being a State subject, steps to make installation of rain water harvesting system mandatory are to be taken by concerned State Governments. However, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) constituted under Section 3 (3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has issued directions to group housing societies, institutions, schools, hotels, industrial establishments and farm houses located in 'notified areas' of South and South West districts of NCT Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Faridabad and Ballabgarh of Haryana, Municipal Corporation of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, Gurgaon Town and adjoining Industrial Areas of Gurgaon district of Haryana to adopt roof top rain water harvesting systems. The CGWA has also issued directions to all group housing societies in NCT of Delhi

located in areas where ground water levels are more than 8 metres and are abstracting ground water to adopt roof top rain water harvesting system. The Ministry of Water Resources has also advised the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to make roof top rain water harvesting mandatory. Accordingly, the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has amended Building Bye-laws, 1983 making provision for water

harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Besides, the State Governments of Haryana and Tamil Nadu have also issued amendments to municipal building bye-laws to make roof top rain water harvesting mandatory for specified category of buildings.

Statement-I

*State-wise details of Artificial Recharge Projects under Central Sector Scheme
"Study of Recharge to Ground Water"*

Sl. No.	States/Union Territory	No. of projects sanctioned	Cost of projects approved (Rs. in lakh)	Amount released upto 30.06.2003 (Rs. in lakh)	No. of projects completed	No. of projects in progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	54.55	52.25	10	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	20.00	20.00	1	0
3.	Assam	1	63.50	63.50	0	1
4.	Bihar	2	10.52	9.84	1	1
5.	Chandigarh	7	64.23	60.49	5	2
6.	Delhi	18	96.07	92.22	15	3
7.	Gujarat	3	20.05	20.05	3	0
8.	Haryana	8	107.17	107.17	4	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6	81.65	81.65	6	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	78.96	78.96	6	2
11.	Jharkhand	5	25.73	25.73	0	5
12.	Karnataka	2	43.30	43.30	1	1
13.	Kerala	13	88.18	88.18	8	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5	53.85	53.85	5	0
15.	Maharashtra	4	126.63	81.63	3	1
16.	Meghalaya	1	20.32	18.65	1	0
17.	Mizoram	1	28.00	28.00	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18.	Nagaland	3	116.43	110.47	1	2
19.	Orissa	8	1508.29	1152.46	1	7
20.	Punjab	17	361.92	361.92	15	2
21.	Rajasthan	18	122.80	122.24	12	6
22.	Tamil Nadu	10	161.14	161.14	8	2
23.	Uttar Pradesh	10	139.07	103.31	5	5
24.	Uttaranchal	1	2.00	2.00	1	0
25.	West Bengal	7	154.09	130.23	2	5
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3	12.92	8.39	0	3
27.	Lakshadweep	2	19.85	19.85	0	2
Total		174	3581.22	3097.48	115	59

Statement-II

State-wise number of Recharge Structures to be taken up under the Scheme on "Artificial, Recharge of Groundwater and Rain Water Harvesting"

Sl. No.	States/Union Territory	No. of Recharge structures
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	185
2.	Bihar & Jharkhand	205
3.	Chhattisgarh	104
4.	Delhi	235
5.	Goa	30
6.	Gujarat	240
7.	Haryana	260
8.	Himachal Pradesh	64
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	40
10.	Karnataka	373
11.	Kerala	95
12.	Madhya Pradesh	232

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	212
14.	North-Eastern States	165
15.	Orissa	100
16.	Punjab	425
17.	Rajasthan	196
18.	Sikkim	170
19.	Tamil Nadu	184
20.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	770
21.	West Bengal	236
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	77
23.	Chandigarh	100
24.	Lakshadweep	100
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	140
26.	Daman & Diu	110
27.	Pondicherry	38
28.	Eastern Coastal States	1
29.	Western Coastal States	1

*[Translation]***Poaching of Musk Deers**

1065. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of musk-deers and other rare animals is continuing unabated in Himalayan region for the last few years and their use in preparing drugs, especially sexual enhancement drugs is the main reason behind it; and

(b) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government for protection of musk-deers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) Poaching of rare animals including musk deer from Himalayan region is reported from time to time. Animals like musk deer and rhinoceros are mainly poached for musk and horn respectively which are used in aphrodisiac formulations.

(b) The steps taken by the Government for protection of musk deer are as follows:

- (i) Musk deer is included in the Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection. Hunting of musk deer is prohibited under the provisions of the Act.
- (ii) The penalty for poaching of musk deer and illegal trade in its parts and products has been enhanced from minimum of one year to three years and maximum of six years to seven years. Provision has also been made for forfeiture of property of the habitual offenders.
- (iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wild life offenders.
- (iv) The State Governments have been empowered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to reward any person who renders assistance in the detection of wild life offence and apprehension of the offenders up to an extent of Rs. 10,000/-

*[English]***Diversion of Sewage Treatment Plant of Maharashtra**

1066. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National River Action Plan is 100% Centrally sponsored scheme of the Union Government;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted the detailed project reports of the interception and sewage treatment plant to the Union Government for administrative approval;

(c) if so, whether the said approval has since been accorded;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) The schemes under National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) have been funded up to March 1997 on the basis of 50:50 cost sharing between the Government of India and respective State Government. Since April 1997, the schemes under NRCP are 100% centrally sponsored while new schemes approved after March 2001 are being funded on the basis of 70:30 cost sharing between the Government of India and respective State Government/Local Body.

(b) to (e) Detailed project reports (DPRs) pertaining to Interception & Diversion (I&D) of wastewater and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) were approved by the Government for four towns of Maharashtra namely; Nashik, Trimbakeshwar, Nanded and Karad under NRCP. DPR for STP at Sangli was also approved by the Government except I&D component due to change of scope which would need separate approval.

Varahi Project in Karnataka

1067. SHRI G. PUTTASWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on Varahi Project in Karnataka has been completed;

(b) if not, whether Irrigation Board (NIGAM) would be completing the project in the near future;

(c) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Union Government to the State Government for the purpose; and

(d) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Varahi Irrigation Project with latest estimated cost of Rs. 250.00 crore envisaging creation of 15.70 thousand hectare irrigation potential is under execution and likely to be completed beyond Tenth Five Year Plan. Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerate Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is provided to such ongoing major/medium irrigation projects which have been given investment clearance by the Planning Commission. Varahi Irrigation Project is not eligible for CLA under AIBP being an unproved project.

[Translation]

Organic Farming and New Techniques In Agriculture

1068. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage farmers to increase yield of fruits and vegetables through organic farming and familiarise them with new techniques in the field of agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A National Programme for organic production has been finalized by the Government of India for encouraging farmers to take up organic farming including for fruits and vegetables. Under the programme organic farming accreditation agencies have been identified and guidelines open the regulations and procedures for accreditation have been brought out by Department of Commerce, Government of India.

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India, is promoting enhanced use of bio-fertilizers, green manure, vermi-compost, Farm Yard Manure and also Neem based integrated Pest Management control measures in organic farming system.

[English]

Scarcity of Water

1069. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation has pointed out in its recent report that there were serious water problems in some developing countries.

(b) if so, whether India is reported to be one of the most affected country;

(c) if so, the reasons mentioned in the report; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the water scarcity in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the Report entitled "Unlocking the Water Potential of Agriculture", individual countries have not been named as water scarcity nations. It indicates that one in five developing countries would face water shortage by 2030. It is mentioned in the report that irrigated areas in the developing countries are expected to increase from currently 205 million hectare to 242 million hectare and water withdrawals for irrigation is projected to increase by 14 percent by 2030. By 2030, East Asia, the Near East and North Africa would be using three-quarters of their irrigable land and South Asia almost 90 percent.

(d) In order to augment the availability of water in the country for irrigation and other uses and for their efficient use, storage capacity of 177 billion cubic metre (BCM) has been created. Another 75 BCM of storage will be created on completion of projects which are under various stages of construction. Proposals for additional projects are also under formulation/consideration for creation of storage capacity of 132 BCM. To accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rainwater harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development,

for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis. Assistance is also being extended to State Governments under Command Area Development (CAD) programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilized. For meeting future requirements of water, as a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins, wherever feasible as per consensus between donor-donee States.

[Translation]

Commission to Sales Agent by AI

1070. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India had to suffer huge losses as a result of payment of arbitrarily fixed commission to its sales agents by senior officials of London Office of Air India;

(b) if so, the total loss suffered by Air India as a result thereof;

(c) whether some penalty has been imposed on these officials after they were held guilty in a CBI inquiry; and

(d) if so, the amount of penalty imposed and by when the penalty is likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) CBI has investigated the issue of undue payment by Air India to its ex-General Sales Agent M/s Welcome Travels in London and has recommended recovery of an excess payment of UK Pound Sterling 268,888.01.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Penalty of "Censure" has been imposed on one officer. The final retirement dues in respect of another Officer and medical and passage facilities in respect of third Officer have been withheld. AI has initiated legal action to recover the excess amount paid to the General Sales Agent.

[English]

Multi-Laning of Air Corridor

1071. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revolutionise Indian skies by multi-laning the air corridors passing over the country in order to handle atleast three times of the present air-traffic, on the same lines as multi-laning of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme, indicating the demands from the international and national airways for additional air-services across Indian skies and Indian airports; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The system of multiple-laning of air corridors has been named EMARSSH (The Revised Air Traffic Services Route Structure—Asia to Middle East/Europe-South of the Himalayas). This was implemented on 28th November, 2002. In this system, some old air corridors have been deleted and about 20 new air corridors have been introduced. The old air corridors had same in-built converging points. In the new system, efforts have been made to remove those converging system, efforts have been made to remove those converging points to meet the demand of international air traffic.

Fleet Expansion by A.I./I.A.

1072. SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of Air India and Indian Airlines by augmenting and replacing the ageing fleet of AI and IA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when all formalities will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines in its 61st

meeting held on 27th March, 2002 approved the proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft comprising A-319, A-320 and A-321 from Airbus Industries during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08 at a net cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. The proposal has been submitted by Indian Airlines to the Government for approval. No firm date can be indicated at present as due procedures have to be followed.

Air India also has plans to acquire new aircraft in order to phase out the older aircrafts, rationalize its fleet and expand capacity. The proposal has not been received by Government so far.

Compensation and Rehabilitation of Displaced People due to the establishment of NSP

1073. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people displaced due to the establishment of Neelachal Steel Plan (NSP) in Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to compensate and rehabilitate the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) A total of 634 families have been displaced from the land acquired by the Government of Orissa for establishment of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited.

(b) The State Government has established rehabilitation colony at Gobarghati for the displaced persons where families willing to stay have shifted. The colony has provision of a primary school, roads, community center, electricity and drinking water facility. A sum of Rs. 2000/- had been paid to each of the displaced families who opted to make its own rehabilitation elsewhere.

Special Drought Relief Fund

1074. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been proposed to fix a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy during 2003-04 at Rs. 550/- for two grades;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rationale behind enhancing the MSP for paddy, wheat and sugarcane every year while FCI is holding huge unsold stocks of these items in its warehouses;

(d) whether a Component of Special Drought Relief Fund (SDRF) of Rs. 20/- per quintal is included in the MSP for 2003-04, as in the last year; and

(e) if so, the reasons for inclusion of SDRF in the MSP for 2003-04 as with good monsoons no more drought conditions prevail in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy during 2003-04 season is at present under consideration of the Government.

Tax Structure in Tourism Industry

1075. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether multiplicity of taxes that prevails in the hotel industry is hampering foreign tourist flow;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this issue was discussed in the Tourism Ministers Conference in the recent past;

(d) if so, whether the Government have constituted a committee to look into the tax structure in tourism industry in different States;

(e) if so, whether the committee has since submitted its report to the Government;

(f) if so, the recommendations made therein; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for a single window mechanism in each State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) In order to give a boost to the hotel industry, the 10% Expenditure Tax levied by the Central Government on hotels has been completely withdrawn w.e.f. 1st June 2003. An extension has also been granted to the hotel industry for exemption of Service Tax where a substantial meal is served during conferences and banquets held in hotels.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

(g) The Department of Tourism, Government of India has requested the State Governments/UTs to set up a Single Window Clearance System in their respective States.

Loss due to SARS

1076. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some flights had to be suspended due to outbreak of SARS in some countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the losses due to cancellation of the flights;

(d) whether the flights have since been resumed to SARS affected countries; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government to safeguard the passenger and crew of the flight against SARS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India had a suspend flights to Hong Kong and curtail their operations to Singapore, Bangkok and Tokyo.

(c) It is difficult to quantify the losses purely due to outbreak of SARS, as simultaneously, there were hostilities in Iraq and refusal by pilots of Air India to operate which also resulted in cancellation of flights and losses.

(d) Effective June 1, 2003 Air India resumed flights to Bangkok and Tokyo. As Hong Kong was the worst affected by SARS, the Hong Kong terminator flights have not been re-introduced till date, due to a subdued market. However, the two flights to Osaka via Hong Kong commenced effective July 11, 2003.

(e) Air India's Management had taken all possible precautions in accordance with the guidelines issued by WHO and IATA. All the crew members have been provided with masks. Fumigation in the aircraft was being

done as per the laid down guidelines. Special detergents were being provided for cleaning. Rigorous screening of passengers was being undertaken by the health authorities of the respective countries at Hong Kong and Singapore airport prior to departure to prevent spreading of this disease. Similarly, Indian Health Authorities undertook comprehensive screening of passengers arriving from all affected countries. Air India also made arrangements so that the crew did not have night halts in these cities. Several health advisories were issued to the cabin crew, cockpit crew, ground maintenance crew and all the employees about the disease itself, how to handle a suspected case of SARS on board, precautions to be taken while visiting SARS affected cities on duty, and on return.

Amendment in National Policy on Child Labour

1077. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 for strict enforcement of child labour related laws;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the financial allocation made to National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) during the last three years and the current financial year in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to amend the National Policy on Child Labour at present.

(c) Under the Scheme of NCLP, the allocation of funds during the last three years is at statement enclosed. For the current financial year, no funds have been allocated so far.

Statement*State-wise Allocation of Funds during the last three years under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs)*

(in Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,84,33,204	16,57,66,834	17,30,99,447
2.	Bihar	1,90,74,484	95,02,507	1,50,38,454

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Karnataka	97,44,405	2,11,47,534	2,96,34,864
4.	Madhya Pradesh	18,410,684	1,01,28,924	1,50,40,004
5.	Maharashtra	38,19,492	56,40,776	1,34,26,232
6.	Orissa	7,65,21,415	12,32,13,408	9,29,31,983
7.	Rajasthan	1,80,40,638	3,09,39,987	3,37,10,290
8.	Tamilnadu	3,01,70,905	6,55,71,835	7,49,14,668
9.	Uttar Pradesh	3,36,23,091	7,66,99,134	8,41,73,823
10.	West Bengal	3,45,14,785	5,21,31,878	5,00,76,934
11.	Punjab	59,96,066	1,14,64,151	1,87,54,380
12.	Chattisgarh	--	1,05,65,638	1,87,05,009
13.	Jharkhand	--	1,74,59,149	1,64,78,418

Renaming of Airport

1078. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to rename the Varanasi Airport in the memory of Guru Ravi Das and Nagpur Airport in the name of Bharat Ratan Dr. B.R. Ambedkar;

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be materialised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It has been found that passengers in general and especially foreign tourists and other visitors who may not be familiar with the local history find easier to identify the airport when it is name after the city which it serves.

Price Support Scheme for Coarse Grains, Pulses and Edible Oils

1079. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting with State representatives was held to bring coarse grains, pulses and edible oils under the price support scheme;

(b) if so, the outcome of the said meeting;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to bring coarse cereals, pulses etc., under the price support scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the names of major agricultural commodities which are being covered under the scheme of Minimum Support Price at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Coarse cereals (Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi and Barley) and pulses [Arhar (Tur), Moong, Urad, Masur and Gram] are already covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme.

(f) The agricultural commodities covered under the scheme of Minimum Support Price are Paddy, Jowar,

Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Arhar (Tur), Moong, Urad, Masur (Lentil), Sugarcane, Cotton, Groundnut in shell, Jute Rapeseed/Mustard, Sunflower seed, Soyabean, Safflower, Toria, Tobacco (VFC), Copra, Sesamum and Nigarseed.

[*Translation*]

Guest Houses in States for Central Govt. Employees

1080. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the guest houses available for Central Government employees in various States, State-wise location-wise; and

(b) the details of rent being charged by the Government from the employees staying in these guest houses, guest house-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) As per details given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) As per details given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

List of Touring Officers Hostels and Holiday Homes

S.No.	Name of the Station	Location of Guest House
A. Touring Officers Hostels		
1.	Kolkata	Nizam Place, 234/4, Acharya J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata-20.
2.	Mumbai	(1) Pratishtha Bhavan, 101, M.K. Road (Near Church Gate) Mumbai-20. (2) Central Government Multistoreyed Apartments, Hyderabad Estate, Nepean Sea Road (Opp. Priyadarshini Park, Mumbai).
3.	Chennai	(1) Shastri Bhavan, 26-Haddows Road, Chennai-600 006. (2) 'C' Wing, CGO Complex, Rajaji Bhavan, Basant Nagar, Chennai-600090
4.	Bangalore	(1) Central Govt. Officers Accommodation, Enquiry Office (Civil), CPWD Qrs. Domlur, Bangalore-560 017. (2) Central Govt. Guest House 17th Main, II Block, Koramangla, Bangalore-560 034.
5.	Trivandrum	CGO Complex, Vellayani, P.O. Poonkulam, Trivandrum-695 522.
6.	Lucknow	Kendrachal Colony, Sector-K, Aliganj, Lucknow-226 020.
7.	Delhi	F' Block, Curzon Road, Hostel, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110 001.
B. Holiday Homes		
1.	Shimla	Grand Hotel, The Mall, Shimla-171001.
2.	Kanyakumari	Holiday Home for Central Government Employees, Kovalam Road (near Light House), Kanyakumari.
3.	Amarkantak	Central Govt. Holiday Home, Amarkantak (with Madhya Pradesh Tourism).
4.	Mysore	Holiday Home, CPWD Office Campus, T. Narasipur Road. Sidhartha Nagar, Mysore-570 011.

Statement II**Tariff for Touring Officers' Hostel/Holiday Homes**

(Charges per day)

Category of accommodation	Serving Central Government employees on duty	Central Government employees on leave	Private persons accompanying as guest of Government employees
A. Touring Officers Hostel			
Single Bed Suite	Rs. 15	Rs. 25	Rs. 100
Double Bed Suite	Rs. 30	Rs. 50	Rs. 195
Dormitory/PAs Room	Rs. 10	Rs. 15	Rs. 65
B. Holiday Homes (except Grand Hotel, Shimla)			
Single Bed Suite	Rs. 25	Rs. 25	Rs. 115
Double Bed Suite	Rs. 40	Rs. 40	Rs. 165
Four Bed Suite	Rs. 50	Rs. 50	Rs. 245
Holiday Home (Grand Hotel Shimla)			
Types of suites	Central Govt. employees on duty	Central Govt. employees on holiday/Retired Central Govt. employees	Private persons accompanying as guest of Govt. employees
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Single	70	140	350
Married Suite (2 beds)	105	210	525
Family suite (4 beds)	140	280	700
VIP Suite (4 bed suite) Mayo Block	300	600	1800
Dormitory (per bed)	50	100	Rs. 150/-

The rates for Grand Hotel Shimla would stand reduced by 50% during 16th July to 30th September and 16th January to 31st March.

[English]

Flights to Singapore

1081. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to have air link between Thiruvananthapuram and Singapore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and

(b) Silk Air of Singapore is operating three services per week between Thiruvananthapuram and Singapore.

Eco-Tourist Circuit

1082. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shillong has been identified as one of the North-East's Eco-Tourist Circuits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Govt. for its development?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) Shillong is included in the North East Tourist Circuit designated as Eco-Tourism Circuit, which is as under:

Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga-Tezpur-Bhalakpong-Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh) Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima.

Following projects have been sanctioned during 2002-2003 for development of North East Circuit:—

Assam: (i) River Front Development along Brahmaputra.

(ii) Development of Ethnic Village at Bhalakpong.

(iii) Camping site at Khora.

(iv) Signages.

Nagaland: (i) Green Village plan at Khonoma.

An amount Rs. 70.35 lakhs has been sanctioned to Government of Meghalaya for the following projects during 2002-2003 under the Scheme of Product/Infrastructure & Destination Development:-

1. Construction of suspension bridge over Weinia falls Sonkhai in Nongkhnum.
2. Construction of 4 cottages in Nongkhnum Island.
3. Construction of boathouse cafeteria and other facilities in Lumponding Island at Umiam.

The process of identifying the Infrastructure, Promotion and Publicity projects in the current year 2003-2004 has already been initiated in consultation with the State Government including Govt. of Meghalaya.

[Translation]

Use of Urea Fertilizer in U.P.

1083. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of urea fertilizer being used in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to reduce the use of this fertilizer;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) 87.86% of total Nitrogen (N) Nutrient consumed is being used from Urea fertilizer in the State of Uttar Pradesh against all India average of 81% during 2001-02.

(b) to (d) Government is promoting the soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers including Urea. In addition, the conjunctive use of organic manures and bio-fertilisers is also being advocated to supplement the plant nutrients and to sustain agricultural productivity.

[English]

Frequent Flyer Programme

1084. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Frequent Flyer Programmes (FFP) introduced by the Indian Airlines; and

(b) the date from which the FFP has been made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The salient features of the frequent Flyer Programmes (FFP) are as under:-

*Enrolment:

— Individuals who are above 12 years of age can become Members.

***Validity:**

- Membership is valid for 3 years from the date of joining.

***Privileges:**

- Free award tickets on qualifying.
- Separate check-in counters for members at the major metros.
- Members travelling with only hand baggage can tele check-in at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore.
- 10 Kgs. Extra baggage allowance on Indian Airlines domestic and international sectors (except on Dornier and ATR-42 Aircraft).
- Priority for confirmations when waitlisted.
- Attractive Earn Burn ratio.
- Spouses are permitted to club the club accrued mileage points for the purpose of redemption.
- Award tickets are issued on firm basis.
- Even relatives or friends can utilise these points.

(b) The joint frequent flyer programme of Indian Airlines, Air India and Alliance Air (a subsidiary of Indian Airlines) was launched in June 1994.

Pending Insurance Claims of Farmers under NAIS

1085. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment to farmers under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is due in various States of the country, particularly Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and thereafter along with the reasons therefor;

(c) the payment made against insurance claims during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the details of the outstanding dues during the said period; and

(e) by when the dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) and (b) The National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was introduced in Rabi 1999-2000. The details of pending claims in different States, including Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, for the last six crop seasons (i.e. Rabi 1999-2000 to Kharif 2002) are given in the statement-I enclosed.

These claims are pending because State's share towards their claims liability and/or premium subsidy have not been received by the Implementing Agency.

(c) and (d) The details of claims paid and claims due under NAIS are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(e) Claims are settled as soon as the funds from the States are received.

Statement-I

State-wise details of pending claims for the last six seasons under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)

(Rs. In lakh)			
S.No.	State	Season	Total Claims outstanding
1	2	3	4
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Kharif 2000	12.65
2.	Jharkhand	Rabi 2000-01	0.11
3.	Maharashtra	Rabi 2000-01	23.45
4.	Jharkhand	Kharif 2001	1.75
5.	Karnataka	Kharif 2001	15.52
6.	Kerala	Kharif 2001	170.44
7.	Assam	Rabi 2001-02	12.11
8.	Jharkhand	Rabi 2001-02	2.03
9.	Kerala	Rabi 2001-02	1.56
10.	Assam	Kharif 2002	0.79
11.	Bihar	Kharif 2002	1308.82
12.	Gujarat	Kharif 2002	704.03

1	2	3	4
13.	Jharkhand	Kharif 2002	23.67
14.	Karnataka	Kharif 2002	1510.70
15.	Kerala	Kharif 2002	16.81
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Kharif 2002	11779.95
17.	Maharashtra	Kharif 2002	2509.36
18.	Meghalaya	Kharif 2002	5.87
19.	Tamilnadu	Kharif 2002	8.82
Total			18108.44

Statement-II

The details of claims paid and claims due under NAIS

(Rs. Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Total Claims	Claims Paid	Claims Payable
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	34653.80	34653.80	0.00
2.	Assam	15.92	3.02	12.90
3.	Bihar	2122.48	813.66	1308.82
4.	Chhattisgarh	16382.09	16382.09	0.00
5.	Goa	2.23	2.23	0.00
6.	Gujarat	93141.60	92437.57	704.03
7.	Himachal Pradesh	485.64	485.64	0.00
8.	Jharkhand	27.56	0.00	27.56
9.	Karnataka	18225.19	16698.97	1526.22
10.	Kerala	583.10	394.29	188.81
11.	Madhya Pradesh	26804.91	15012.31	11792.60
12.	Maharashtra	27194.00	24661.19	2532.81
13.	Meghalaya	16.67	10.80	5.87
14.	Orissa	35426.76	35426.76	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Tamilnadu	1987.18	1978.36	8.82
17.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	3096.57	3096.57	0.00
19.	West Bengal	467.33	467.33	0.00
20.	A & N Islands	0.61	0.61	0.00
21.	Pondicherry	59.32	59.32	0.00
Total		260692.96	242584.52	18108.44

Community Participation in Development of Forests

1086. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are encouraging community participation in protection and development of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken in this direction, particularly for the State of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Environment & Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration and development of forests through two tier mechanism of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and the Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMCs) at the village level involving the community.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 28 FDA projects covering 1138 JFMCs with a total project cost of Rs. 60.65 crores have been sanctioned to Government of Orissa during 10th Five Year Plan. An amount of Rs. 15.11 crores have been released till date.

Exchange of Germplasm of Selected Plants

1087. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have agreed to exchange germplasm of selected plants and to increase mutual co-operation in agricultural research; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Work Plan between Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Council of Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), Sri Lanka for 2003-2004 has been signed on 05.05.2003 to increase mutual co-operation in the field of agriculture research and education. The Work Plan includes training/study visits, exchange of germplasm and collaborative research projects in the field of agricultural research. The details of the agreed exchange of germplasm are enclosed as statement-I. The details of the germplasm material exchanged till date are also enclosed as statement-II.

Statement I

Exchange of Germplasm as agreed under the Work Plan (2003-2004)

From India to Sri Lanka:

- Biotic stress resistant and improved varieties of rice, finger millet, sorghum, maize, groundnut, sunflower, sesame, chilli, chickpea, green gram, sugarcane.
- Improved varieties of guava, grape, papaya, sapota, mandarin, annona, mango, pomegranate, lemon, tamarind, jojoba, coconut, cashew, brinjal, pumpkin, pointed gourd, luffa, cabbage, cauliflower, murunga, tomato, amaranthus, radish, turnip.
- New hybrids of roses, bougainvillea, chrysanthemum, gladiola, hibiscus, jasmine, marigold.
- Processed semen and embryos of goats and sheep.

From Sri Lanka to India:

- Medicinal and aromatic plants.
- Rambutan-Cvs: See Champoo, Rong Rajan, Tawee.
- Avocado-Cvs: Black Bird, Mac Jo, gottifried, Fuerte
- Mangosteen-Cvs: Javanica Borel, Choisy.
- Durian-Cvs: Mon Thong, Gumpun Khao, Luang Khlews, Cha-nee, Kanyao, Kandum-tong.

Annona— A. *atemoya* Cvs: African Pride, Page, Cochie Island.

A. *squamosa* Cvs: MoiNa Nug, MoiNa Fie, Lincoln.

A. *cherimola* Cvs: MC pheson, Bays.

A. *diversifolia* Cvs: Imery.

Langsat (*Lansium domesticum* Correa)

Sour sop (*Annona muricata* L).

Statement-II

Exchange of germplasm between India and Sri Lanka under work plan (1998-2003)

I. Import

S. No.	Crop name	Botanical name	No. of accession
1	2	3	4
1.	Ambrearella	Spondias dulcis	1
2.	Carambola	Averrhoa carambola	1
3.	Cherimoya	Annona cherimola	1
4.	Chilli	Capsicum sp.	3
5.	Coconut	Cocos nucifera	4
6.	Crossandra	Crossandra sp.	1
7.	Durain	Durio zibnethinus	1
8.	French bean	Phaseolus vulgaris	1
9.	Gal ziyambala	Dialium ovoideum	1

1	2	3	4
10.	Guava	Psidium guajava	1
11.	Jack fruit	Artocarpus heterophyllus	1
12.	Lovi	Flacourtia indica	1
13.	Mangosteen	Garcinia mangostana	2
14.	Mungbean	Vigna radiata	13
15.	Papaya	Carica papaya	1
16.	Pomegranate	Punica granatum	1
17.	Rambuttan	Nephelium lappaceum	1
18.	Rice	Oryza sativa	20
19.	Sorghum	Sorghum bicolor	10
20.	Urussa	Flacourtia inermis	1
21.	Veralu	Elaeocarpus serratus	1
Total			67

Note: A total of 37 accessions were collected through exploration by Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore, India.

2. Export

S.No.	Crop name	Botanical name	No. of accessions
1.	Cauliflower	Brassica oleracea var. botrytis	1
2.	Coconut	Cocos nucifera	9
3.	Gladiolus	Gladiolus sp.	6
4.	Guava	Psidium guajava	1
5.	Maize	Zea mays	4
6.	Mango	Mangifera indica	2
7.	Mangold	Targets sp.	2
8.	Mungbean	Vigna radiata	1
9.	Onion	Allim cepa	3
10.	Pea	Pisum sativum	2
11.	Pomegranate	Punica granatum	1
12.	Potato	Solanum tuberosum	14
13.	Sorghum	Sorghum bicolor	4
14.	Tomato	Lycopersicon esculentum	2
Total			52

Note: A total of 9 accessions were collected through exploration by Sri Lankan authorities.

Setting up of National Herbal Council

1088. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up National Herbal Council to promote growth of herbal plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to promote growth of herbal plants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There is no proposal of the Government to set up National Herbal Council. However, a National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) is functioning under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture Supplementation/Complementation of State Efforts through Work Plan under which the State Governments can take up developmental programmes as per their felt needs including cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) is also implementing schemes for overall growth of the medicinal plant sector in the country.

Additional Flights for N.E. Region

1089. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide Rs. 175 crore to Alliance Air during 2002-07 for running additional flights in the North-Eastern Region in order to promote the industry and tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Government has approved payment of budgetary grant of Rs. 35 crore per annum from North Eastern Council's budget for 5 years (totalling Rs. 175 crores) commencing from 2002-03 to 2006-07 during the 10th Plan Period to Alliance Air for improving air connectivity in the North

Eastern Region. Accordingly, North Eastern Council has accorded sanction to an 'on account' payment of grant of Rs. 35 crore for the year 2002-03 for procuring four 50 seater aircraft on lease by Alliance Air. These aircraft have been inducted in phases, in Alliance Air, which are being operated w.e.f 34d January, 2003 to different locations on North East Region.

Training to Farmers by ICAR

1090. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR is involved in training the farmers, rural youths and extension workers through the KVKs;

(b) if so, the details of the training given by ICAR to these sections of people; and

(c) the utility of such activity by ICAR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last one year, 23,332 training programmes were organized benefiting 4.33 lakhs farmers, 0.66 lakhs rural youths and 0.41 lakhs extension personnel.

(c) Such activity provides a mechanism of dissemination of technology developed by ICAR and getting feed-back.

Dismissal of Temporary Employees of Banks

1091. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain banks have dismissed a large number of temporary employees in Andhra Pradesh having long services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representations have been made in this regard to the Central Regional Labour Commissioner, Hyderabad;

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the number of such instances pending with the Government in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Representations in respect of 913 cases pertaining to termination of services of temporary employees of banks have been received by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Hyderabad.

(d) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 provides for resolution of such disputes through conciliation, failing which by way of adjudication wherever found necessary.

(e) A total number of 190 disputes are pending with the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) in the Central Sphere.

Complaints in ICAR

1092. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several complaints containing issues relating to administrative and financial irregularities in ICAR have been received during the last two months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 15 complaints alleging administrative and financial irregularities have been received at ICAR Hqrs. during the last two months and the same are being processed as per the procedure prescribed by Central Vigilance Commission vide Circulars No. 3 (v)/99/2 dated 29.06.1999, No. 98/DSP/9 dated 31.01.2002, No. 98/DSP/9 dated 11.10.2002 and Central Vigilance Commission Manual.

Cruise Tourism

1093. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts to access the potential of Cruise Tourism in generating employment in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps proposed by the Government for development of cruise tourism especially on Western Coast?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) A Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India to explore the potential of Cruise Tourism and to develop the related infrastructure in the major ports on the west coast. Further, Committees at the ports level have been constituted in the major ports of Mumbai/Marmagao/New Mangalore/Kochi and Tuticorin.

The Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Government of India has also set up a Committee for marketing Cruise Tourism in the Indian Ocean.

**Tribal Families Displaced due to
Dams and Reservoirs**

1094. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of tribal families displaced due to construction of large dams and reservoirs are still awaiting rehabilitation;

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

(c) whether any contingency plan has been drawn up to ensure their proper rehabilitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Irrigation being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, investigation, funding alongwith priority, execution, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects, including irrigation and flood control primarily rests with the concerned State Governments themselves. The State Governments being the owners of the dams it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to Resettle & Rehabilitate the project affected persons. The data on project affected persons or going to be displaced by construction of the dams are not maintained by the Central Government. Various State Governments have evolved their own Resettlement & Rehabilitation policies in respect of the project affected persons taking into account the local conditions.

Establishment of Fodder Bank in A.P.

1095. SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal for strengthening of State farms and establishment of Fodder Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds sought by the State Government for the purpose; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No proposal from the State of A.P. is received to this Department for strengthening of State Farms and establishment of fodder bank. The scheme—"Assistance to States for Fodder Development" has been discontinued from 2002-03 with all components. However, two components of this scheme: establishment of fodder bank and enrichment of straw/cellulosic waste have been revived by the Task Force till March' 2004 due to recent drought. The component of "Strengthening the State Farms" under the Scheme has been discontinued since 1-4-2002.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Arable Land

1096. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of arable land in the country at present and the quantum of water required to irrigate such land, State-wise;

(b) the targeted area of arable land fixed for irrigation during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of the target achieved during the above period, State-wise;

(d) whether the target of irrigating arable land was achieved;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the details of arable land targeted for irrigation during the 2003-04, State-wise; and

(g) the outline of the Tenth Five Year Plan in the above mentioned context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the Land Use Statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1999-2000 (latest), the Total Cultivable area (arable land) is 183.59 million hectare. The quantum of water required for irrigation in the year 2000 has been assessed as 501 Billion Cubic Metre. State-wise break-up of Total Cultivable Area is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) The targets set for creation of additional irrigation potential and the corresponding achievement during the Ninth Plan, State-wise area is given in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Non-completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects in time due to various reasons such as delay in receipt of environment and forest clearance, settlement of interstate issues, slow progress in resettlement and rehabilitation of project affected people, etc., has been the main factor leading to shortfall in achieving the targeted potential.

(f) The targets for creation irrigation potential for the year 2003-04 has not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

(g) Working Groups set up by the Planning Commission for the Tenth Five Year Plan in respect of Major & Medium irrigation programme and Minor irrigation programme have recommended targets for creation of additional irrigation potential of 11.14 million hectare by means of Major & Medium irrigation project and 8.00 million hectare by means of Minor irrigation projects. The Tenth Plan outlay for irrigation and flood control as approved by the Planning Commission is of the order of Rs. 95743 crore comprising Rs. 92143 crore in the State Plans and Rs. 3600 crore in Central Plan.

Statement-I

S.No.	Name of State	Total Cultivable Area (in 000' hectare)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15856
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	293
3.	Assam	3257

1	2	3
4.	Bihar including Jharkhand	10859
5.	Goa	198
6.	Gujarat	12361
7.	Haryana	3821
8.	Himachal Pradesh	805
9.	J & K	1050
10.	Karnataka	12897
11.	Kerala	2444
12.	Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh	22899
13.	Maharashtra	21104
14.	Manipur	164
15.	Meghalaya	1082
16.	Mizoram	446
17.	Nagaland	636
18.	Orissa	7975
19.	Punjab	4250
20.	Rajasthan	25692
21.	Sikkim	114
22.	Tamil Nadu	8301
23.	Tripura	310
24.	Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal	20739
25.	West Bengal	5836
Total of all States		183389
Total UTs		204
All India Grand Total		183593

Statement-II

S.No.	Name of State	Creation of additional Irrigation Potential during the Ninth Plan (in thousand hectare)	
		Target	Achievement*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	608.03	378.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.00	18.38
3.	Assam	19.34	13.83
4.	Bihar including Jharkhand	697.25	271.22
5.	Goa	19.24	6.01
6.	Gujarat	1937.10	844.60
7.	Haryana	278.35	141.14
8.	Himachal Pradesh	9.00	8.72
9.	J & K	50.90	13.16
10.	Karnataka	1264.88	429.97
11.	Kerala	423.30	79.77
12.	Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh	534.75	276.18
13.	Maharashtra	2283.00	682.17
14.	Manipur	65.38	15.38
15.	Meghalaya	12.70	44.31
16.	Mizoram	1.85	4.33
17.	Nagaland	18.80	8.76
18.	Orissa	1004.99	322.78
19.	Punjab	367.86	49.18
20.	Rajasthan	508.70	210.76
21.	Sikkim	4.50	4.77
22.	Tamil Nadu	16.37	12.07
23.	Tripura	38.92	15.59
24.	Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal	6000.00	4611.26
25.	West Bengal	845.00	671.95
Total of all States		17033.21	9134.82
Total UTs		22.31	15.18
All India Grand Total		17055.52	9150.00

*Provisional & to be firmed up by States.

*[English]***Depletion of Water Resources**

1097. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether finite and fragile water resources are stressed and depleting while spectral demands are growing rapidly in line with urbanization, population explosion, rising incomes and industrial growth;

(b) if so, whether the national level statistics for water availability makes huge disparities from basin to basin and region to region;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any plan to ensure equal distribution of water through any mechanism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development, which envisages interlinking various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers. The plan for interlinking of rivers intends to reduce the regional imbalances of water, in feasible links as per consensus achieved.

Research Project on Siberian Cranes

1098. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that every year as many as 45 Siberian cranes head for the Bharatpur Sanctuary in Rajasthan for refuge during winter but during last year there were just a pair of the birds;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have approached some other countries through which Siberian crane are flying;

(d) if so, whether any research project has been finalised to encourage more Siberian cranes to flock here; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government is aware of the gradual decline in the number of Siberian Cranes that visit the Keoladeo Ghana National Park, at Bharatpur, every winter. From fifty five Siberian Cranes in 1977-78, the number was reduced to two in 2001-02. The reasons for their decline is attributed to population reduction in their breeding ground in Siberia, habitat destruction and illegal hunting along their migratory route.

(c) to (e) The Government of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Siberian Crane under the auspices of Convention on Migratory Species along with other range states. A collaborative project to study the migratory route of Siberian Cranes was successfully conducted in association with the Government of former USSR during mid Cranes with wild Siberian Cranes at Keoladeo National Park in an attempt to establish new population. But the project did not achieve the desired results.

Hill Tourism Policy

1099. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any Hill Tourism Policy keeping in view the attraction of mountains in the country;

(b) if so, the plans the Government propose to launch to attract more foreign tourists by developing hill stations; and

(c) the details of financial assistance given to State Governments during the last three years for the development of tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) In order to promote systematically the cause of tourism in the hill states, the Ministry of Tourism has constituted the Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board (HIMTAB) of which Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Uttaranchal, West Bengal are member States.

An Action Plan has been formulated for improving accessibility to mountain areas and for development of tourism infrastructure and facilities in these areas with the objective of developing eco-friendly sustainable tourism in the hill states. India Tourism Offices overseas are continuing to aggressively promote the hill stations in major tourist markets abroad in order to attract more foreign tourists.

(c) Details of Financial Assistance given to States governments during the last three years are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise details of Central Financial Assistance Sanctioned/Released during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003	
		Amt. Sancd.	Amt. Reld.	Amt. Sancd.	Amt. Reld.	Amt. Sancd.	Amt. Reld.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	299.50	228.50	167.85	129.76	507.50	195.00
2.	Assam	338.35	134.47	397.50	195.68	768.13	618.85
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	49.75	17.50	321.90	205.88	41.30	32.50
4.	Bihar	324.48	148.52 ¹	1.35	1.35	505.00	505.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	120.28	37.25	35.00	23.50	308.00	98.50
6.	Goa	93.30	29.90	93.73	49.85	0.05	0.50
7.	Gujarat	469.20	155.62	305.50	120.30	197.12	59.13
8.	Haryana	123.31	74.75	125.44	82.89	332.25	311.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	397.29	246.75	157.64	78.95	779.32	760.38
10.	J&K	474.93	328.63	65.50	60.95	94.38	89.47
11.	Jharkhand	206.49	115.14	80.00	24.00	0	0
12.	Karnataka	489.30	295.66	254.76	166.99	902.49	625.49
13.	Kerala	717.60	471.44	680.08	356.62	861.36	829.86
14.	Madhya Pradesh	262.33	91.14	256.37	105.44	711.18	574.79
15.	Maharashtra	282.69	97.40	1128.20	965.91	623.46	546.25
16.	Manipur	782.77	234.92	0	0.00	5.24	2.62
17.	Meghalaya	105.59	46.10	87.87	36.95	70.35	21.20
18.	Mizoram	311.19	265.73	73.25	44.20	141.16	48.46
19.	Nagaland	156.53	95.95	41.54	22.70	360.50	323.43
20.	Orissa	156.94	65.52	38.05	28.82	47.50	15.75
21.	Punjab	203.50	61.33	17.50	12.34	23.00	14.60
22.	Rajasthan	454.96	253.71	5.00	2.50	1098.70	1096.20
23.	Sikkim	368.62	267.63	108.83	68.70	346.24	269.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	122.83	48.82	533.67	167.26	559.00	316.10
25.	Tripura	333.23	166.09	114.40	64.87	216.13	67.78
26.	Uttaranchal	70.19	33.53	65.51	40.79	548.00	418.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	423.74	182.66	55.74	46.87	295.00	295.00
28.	West Bengal	432.99	311.03	229.85	98.63	201.10	60.00
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.78	0.89	0	0.00	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	22.13	16.14	8.00	7.12	7.75	6.63

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8.00	2.40	3.70	1.85	8.07	6.46
32.	Delhi	17.70	9.99	55.01	37.30	504.00	449.02
33.	Daman & Diu	0	0.00	5.00	1.50	49.50	16.90
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	17.00	5.10	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	26.18	9.09	78.61	55.98	7.87	6.30
Total		8647.67	4544.20	5609.35	3311.55	11121.10	8680.93

Training Opportunities at Affordable Costs

1100. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give the poor access to training opportunities at affordable costs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the funds will be arranged for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government efforts have always been to give access of training to the trainees at an affordable cost. Tuition fee for the Vocational Training institutes run by Ministry of Labour is Rs. 20/- per trainee per month. No. tuition fee is charged from SC/ST and physically handicapped trainees.

(c) The tuition fee for State Governments/Private run Industrial Training Institutes is decided by the respective State Council for Vocational Training.

The funds for conducting training are arranged by the Central/State Governments/Union Territory Administration/Private agencies from their own budget.

Increase in IA Flights

1101. SHRI PRIYA RANAJN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase Indian Airlines flights to international destinations particularly in South East Asian region and Middle East; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) A three Member Committee has been constituted to examine the issue of route-rationalisation between Air India and Indian Airlines. The Committee will submit its recommendations after taking into account respective stand points of Air India and Indian Airlines, observations of the points of Air Indian and Indian Airlines, observations of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and keeping in view the short term/long term interest of both the airlines etc.

Pollution around Taj

1102. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware about the pollution level around the Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey on the pollution level around the Taj;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the pollution level data available at the Taj Pollution Laboratory is alarming; and

(f) if so, the steps taken/to be taken by the Union Government to check pollution level near Taj?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (e) The ambient air quality is regularly monitored at Taj Mahal by the Central Pollution Control Board. Some of the parameters of Air Pollution are above the prescribed standards.

(f) Various measures taken for the protection of the Taj Mahal and surrounding areas include: closure of two coal based Thermal Power Stations, installation of air pollution, control equipment in foundries, shifting of brick-kilns, green belt development, supply of gas connection provided for the bangle factories in Firozabad, by-pass road to divert movement of traffic, restriction on movements of vehicles within a radius of 500 meters from the Taj Mahal.

Funds for Training of Child Labour

1103. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had allocated certain funds for training of child labour in the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

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

(c) whether any insurance scheme for Child Labour has been included or proposed to be included in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) During the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Government of India's allocation for programmes to eliminate child labour, also included provision for all training components.

(c) to (e) Instructions have already been issued for taking Students' Safety Insurance Policy for the children of NCLP schools.

Increase In Baggage

1104. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether both Air India and Indian Airlines have decided to raise the baggage limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether on account of increase in the baggage limit, the domestic courier service will be affected; and

(d) if so, whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Setting up of Directorate of Recovery for PF

1105. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up directorate of Recovery for Provident Fund arrears;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Provident Fund Arrears at the end of March, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has decided to set up a Directorate of Recovery with its Headquarters at Delhi and offices at Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. This Directorate will be headed by a Director and assisted by four Deputy Directors in regions.

(c) The total arrears of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation as on 31.3.2003 were Rs. 1511.79 crores. Out of this, Rs. 331.61 crores is realisable and Rs. 1180.18 crores is locked up i.e. not immediately releasable, due to court orders etc.

Special Audit of ICAR

1106. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Special Audit of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) was conducted by the Ministry of Finance through Comptroller and Auditor General;

(b) if so, whether Special Audit Report has been received by the ICAR;

(c) if so, whether issues concerning gross financial and administrative irregularities have been pointed out therein; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the ICAR against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. The Special Audit was not conducted by the Ministry of Finance through Comptroller and Auditor General.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Flow of Water in Yamuna River

1107. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of total quantum of water flowing from the basin of Yamuna river;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the share of water being utilized by various States out of total water; and

(c) the details of projects under construction for the utilization of remaining water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) According to the report "Ganga Basin Water Resources Development—A Perspective Plan" March

1996, of Central Water Commission, the annual mean flow in the Yamuna sub-basin (excluding Chambal) is 57.241 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). The 75 per cent dependable notional virgin flow in the Yamuna river up to Okhla has been assessed as 11.70 BCM an mean year availability has been assessed as 13.0 BCM.

Regarding sharing of surface flow of Yamuna waters upto Okhla, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the five co-basin States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and NCT of Delhi on 12.05.1994. With the creation of new State of Uttaranchal, the share of Uttar Pradesh allocated in MoU is to be reallocated by the States of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal between themselves. The allocation of utilizable water resources as per MoU assessed on mean year availability to the basin States for their utilization is as follows:

1.	Haryana	—	5.730 BCM
2.	U.P.	—	4.032 BCM
3.	Rajasthan	—	1.119 BCM
4.	Himachal Pradesh	—	0.378 BCM
5.	NCT of Delhi	—	0.724 BCM

the actual utilization will however depend upon the management practices being followed by the State Governments.

(c) Water being a State subject, the schemes/projects to utilize the available water are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities.

[English]

Drought Affected States

1108. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of normal and actual rainfall and the shortfall noticed this year in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of States which have been declared drought affected States due to less rainfall;

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether any consultations have been held with the State Agriculture Ministers in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

(a) State-wise details, as reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) during current South-West Monsoon (1.6.2003 to 16.7.2003) are indicated in the statement enclosed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(b) to (e) No State Government has so far reported declaration of drought this year.

Statement

State-wise Rainfall Distribution

01.06.2003 to 16.07.2003

S.No.	State/UT	Actual (mm)	Normal (mm)	%DEP	CAT
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	A & N Island (UT)	391.5	603.5	-35%	D
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	922.2	841.8	10%	N
3.	Assam	765.7	674.3	14%	N
4.	Meghalaya	3205.1	1715.4	A	E
5.	Nagaland	329.0	538.5	-39%	D
6.	Manipur	581.1	402.6	44%	E
7.	Mizoram	740.5	590.3	25%	E
8.	Tripura	950.3	679.2	40%	E
9.	Sikkim	968.0	842.0	15%	N
10.	West Bengal	666.1	534.0	25%	E
11.	Orissa	340.0	382.9	-11%	N
12.	Bihar	487.6	339.8	43%	E
13.	Jharkhand	323.3	360.8	-10%	N
14.	Uttar Pradesh	312.7	226.4	38%	E
15.	Uttaranchal	457.1	390.4	17%	N
16.	Haryana	187.1	132.9	41%	E
17.	Chandigarh (UT)	281.4	272.1	3%	N

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Delhi	459.4	176.0	161%	E
19.	Punjab	137.6	136.0	1%	N
20.	Himachal Pradesh	254.5	263.6	-3%	N
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	90.8	121.4	-25%	D
22.	Rajasthan	167.4	140.4	19%	N
23.	Madhya Pradesh	273.7	290.3	-6%	N
24.	Chhattisgarh	301.3	382.7	-21%	D
25.	Gujarat	362.4	309.6	17%	N
26.	DNH & Daman (UTs)	806.9	800.9	1%	N
27.	Diu (UT)	—	291.8	—	.
28.	Goa	1874.9	1400.7	34%	E
29.	Maharashtra	421.1	388.1	9%	N
30.	Andhra Pradesh	219.0	175.2	25%	E
31.	Tamil Nadu	82.5	81.4	1%	N
32.	Pondicherry (UT)	122.4	61.4	99%	E
33.	Karnataka	380.3	370.2	3%	N
34.	Kerala	846.7	1105.1	-23%	D
35.	Lakshadweep (UT)	720.0	469.6	53%	E

Categorywise No. of States/UT

Category	No. of States/UTs
Excess	13
Normal	16
Deficient	5
Scanty	0
No Rain	0
No Data	1

[*Translation*]**EPF Defaulters**

1109. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the detail of companies/corporations/undertakings, both public and private in the country who have defaulted in payment of their shares in Employees Provident Fund (EPF) during the last three years and thereafter year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the reasons for such defaulting;

(c) the extent of gap between default and recovery recording during the above period;

(d) the details of companies/corporations/undertakings whose assets have been auctioned by the Government to realise the EPF amount dues during the above period;

(e) the procedure adopted by the Government to appoint Valuers before auctioning the assets;

(f) whether the Government provide adequate time to the defaulters to clear their dues;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government propose to formulate a concrete policy in future to get the PF deposited in time; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The details are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The reasons for default include—economic recession, financial constraints, sickness of industry, stay by courts, liquidation, closure as well as wilful default on the part of the employer.

(c) The extent of gap between default and recovery is given in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) The details are given in the statement-III enclosed.

(e) The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation does not appoint any valuer. Instead, the services of valuers approved by various departments of the Government are taken as and when required.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. After quantification of dues under Section 7A and 14B of the Employees Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 a notice of 15 days is given to defaulters. In case of non-remittance of dues within the financial year, Recovery Certificates are issued in respect of the outstanding dues. On every Recovery Certificate, the recovery officer issues a demand notice, allowing an additional notice period of 15 the recovery officer issues a demand notice, allowing an additional notice period of 15 days for remittance of dues. Coercive actions are only initiated subsequently. Besides, in deserving cases, instalment facility is also provided.

(h) and (i) Yes, Sir. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has already launched a re-engineering program, which covers recovery. Monthly default is monitored through an IT assisted program called the 'Computerised Compliance Tracking System' (CCTS).

Statement-I

Region	2000-2001				2001-2002				2002-2003				As on 30.6.2003			
	Public Sector		Private Sector		Public Sector		Private Sector		Public Sector		Private Sector		Public Sector		Private Sector	
	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt	Estt.	Amt
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Andhra Pradesh	44	3246.96	3377	2991.65	45	2231.97	2842	5404.67	52	4101.74	1330	6079.50	52	4101.74	1345	7696.46
Bihar	78	5772.36	689	1188.15	28	3779.08	286	931.19	32	4410.94	42	257.14	6	500.57	114	1015.63

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	1152.10	321	380.00	3	1105.65	222	302.25	3	1105.65	400	357.94
Delhi	1	390.27	278	971.39	2	148.14	401	1562.37	1	35.43	311	2269.39	1	179.52	890	2071.90
Goa	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	48	144.29	0	0.00	84	174.63	0	0.00	90	187.18
Gujarat	26	1381.97	1116	2935.70	26	1424.46	2043	4447.85	24	882.22	2145	3637.22	24	882.22	2048	4483.03
Himachal Pradesh	6	22.43	128	282.17	4	22.40	131	494.90	2	18.67	136	357.51	2	18.67	124	588.07
Haryana	16	4823.96	1058	2188.52	18	2601.13	998	4840.15	5	1300.78	1035	4975.64	5	1300.78	984	6214.38
Jharkhand	0	0.00	0	0.00	9	2830.98	337	533.02	8	3004.70	123	666.29	2	120.01	46	197.80
Karnataka	14	3841.86	762	2790.35	31	3836.72	405	2294.50	30	2440.55	1288	6515.05	30	2440.55	769	6650.88
Kerala	36	786.82	1347	2991.36	51	776.35	1666	4438.76	40	1069.47	3336	5645.60	19	152.08	4755	1185.15
Madhya Pradesh	354	6911.67	1654	4298.37	24	2148.85	1913	11099.56	46	6379.98	1846	2943.25	46	6379.98	1142	2608.29
Maharashtra	30	3246.56	1790	7423.15	270	6318.39	1174	3977.52	46	5321.24	2130	13051.65	30	5347.77	2171	15523.31
N-E Region	42	3409.66	319	222.92	77	3387.73	172	510.85	35	2539.53	271	722.74	31	2865.84	374	758.13
Orissa	359	3778.33	970	1496.78	342	5026.91	916	2466.61	124	3900.04	1093	3264.54	13	255.90	26	158.98
Punjab	71	1228.66	1489	1062.23	120	1243.24	2847	1645.59	23	691.65	1910	2722.26	30	691.65	646	3040.18
Rajasthan	9	2289.35	1323	1511.83	9	2298.74	1272	1691.20	13	1436.93	1369	1505.52	13	1218.19	1647	1691.38
Tamil Nadu	669	1018.02	6380	6048.80	53	768.51	7816	9180.62	31	1059.84	6258	11036.12	61	665.69	11395	12898.70
Uttar Pradesh	228	2742.16	1155	4192.57	216	3548.91	2984	3593.65	98	7022.18	2322	4690.22	98	7022.18	2436	4911.18
Uttaranchal	0	0.00	0	0.00	38	366.75	68	394.83	22	992.16	59	149.76	22	812.45	61	150.31
West Bengal	95	23317.90	294	7604.90	169	12038.27	1347	17642.32	68	14213.93	1764	18285.29	68	14213.93	1847	28702.65
	2078	68208.94	24129	50200.84	1535	55949.63	29987	77674.45	703	61927.63	29074	89251.5	556	50275.37	33310	101091.53

Statement II*Comparative Recovery Position for the last three years*

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Total Default	Recovery made	Gap between default and recovery*
2000-2001	1981.08	796.98	1184.10
2001-2002	2194.77	858.53	1336.24
2002-2003	2397.77	885.99	1511.79
1.4.2003 to 30.6.2003**	1741.60	227.93	1513.67

*Demands not immediately realizable because of stay by courts, sickness of industry (BIFR), liquidation of establishments etc.

**Provisional Figures.

Statement-III

Region	Name of the estt.	Amount realized (Rs. in lakhs)	Date of auction
Karnataka	Samrat Ashok Exports Ltd., Bangalore	150.00	28.3.2001
Kerala	Apple Photo Beedi, Palakkad	6.71	1.6.2001
Maharashtra	ATV Projects India Ltd.	0.44	30.4.2003
Orissa	Chhotelal Kumbhar	0.59	8.7.2003
Punjab	Mianji Steel (P) Ltd.	1.35	3.12.2002
Tamil Nadu	Ganesh CNC	0.05	22.10.2001
	Iggi Resorts International, Chennai	0.37	8.7.2002
	Chemech Engg. Pvt. Ltd., Chennai	5.72	10.10.2002 & 18.2.02
West Bengal	Grand Azad Hind Transport Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata	3.60	2.3.2000 & 25.10.2000
	Ancillary Suppliers, 24, Parganas	21.51	25.10.2000
	Angus Co. Ltd., Kolkata	10.38	25.6.2001
	Saamnuggur Jute Factory Plc., Kolkata	86.25	20.8.2001
	Victoria Jute Co. Ltd., Kolkata	67.38	20.8.2001
	Diamond Lifter Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata	2.83	11.10.2001
	Central Inland Water Transport Co. Ltd., Kolkata	21.00	11.10.2001
Total		378.18	

*[English]***Growth in Passenger Traffic of IA**

1110. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO
SHRI GUNIPATI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of growth noticed in passenger traffic of IA during each of the last three year-wise;

(b) whether the civil aviation sector had set a five percent growth target for 2002-2003;

(c) if so, whether the target has been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) The

percentage of growth of Passenger traffic in Air India and Indian Airlines are as under:

Air India

Year	Passenger Kilometers (Million)	Percentage Growth
2000-2001	12047.683	+4
2001-2002	11288.745	-6
2002-2003	11869.129	+5

Indian Airlines

Year	Passenger Kilometers (Million)	Percentage Growth
2000-2001	8539	+1.9
2001-2002	8257	-3.3
2002-2003	8855	+7.2

(b) No, Sir. However Working Group on Civil Aviation set up by the Ministry has assessed a growth rate of 5% and 6% in domestic and International passenger sector respectively.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Additional Assistance to Drought Affected States

1111. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:
SHRI M. DURAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high-level task force on drought led by the Deputy Prime Minister has considered the demands of the drought affected States for additional Central assistance at a meeting on June 30, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof and decision taken thereon;

(c) whether all the demands of the drought affected States have been met;

(d) if so, the assistance and foodgrains provided to each affected State; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure that the utilisation reports from these States are obtained by the task force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) The Task Force on Drought Management, in its meeting held on 30th June, 2003, considered the requests of some of the severely drought affected States for further allocation of foodgrains for relief employment and taking into account all relevant factors further allocations to be utilized within July, 2003 as per details indicated below:—

State	Quantity approved (lakh MTs)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2.20*
Chhattisgarh	0.31

1	2
Gujarat	1.58
Karnataka	0.55
Madhya Pradesh	0.70
Tamil Nadu	1.00

*Includes 1.15 lakh MTs approved but not released earlier.

The affected states have been requested to send periodic report regarding foodgrains lifted, Mandays generated, etc.

Release of Water from Ujani Dam to Bheema River in Maharashtra

1112. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra is not releasing the water from Ujani Dam to Bheema River as per direction of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to intervene and resolve the matter, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) In pursuance of the directions contained in the Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 1st April, 2003 and 2nd May, 2003 in the Writ Petitions (Civil) filed by Bheema Nadi Neeru R. Raithavarga Samithi Vs. Union of India & Others, the State of Maharashtra started releasing 1000 cusec water from 3rd May, 2003 from Ujjini Dam as informed by their counsel in the Court on 14.5.2003. Flows as recorded at Central Water Commission (CWC) sites at Narsinghpur and Takali, both located downstream of Ujjini Dam on river Bhima for the month of May and June, 2003 are given in the Statement enclosed. Bheema Nadi Neeru R. Raithavarga Samithi i.e. the Petitioner has filed Contempt Petition in the above Writ Petition (Civil) against the State of Maharashtra.

Statement					
<i>Discharge at Takali and Narsingpur (in cubic meter per second)</i>			1	2	3
Date	Takali	Narsingpur			
1	2	3			
01.05.03	Stagnant	3.366	29.05.03	3..740	51.220
02.05.03	Stagnant	Stagnant	30.05.03	2.180	46.880
03.05.03	Stagnant	Stagnant	31.05.03	3.740	27.360
04.05.03	Stagnant	Stagnant	01.06.03	4.540	8.000
05.05.03	Stagnant	Stagnant	02.06.03	3.792	8.964
06.06.03	Stagnant	14.680	03.06.03	5.290	6.246
07.05.03	Stagnant	25.670	04.06.03	3.420	6.110
08.05.03	nil	24.710	05.06.03	2.300	6.232
09.05.03	nil	26.220	06.06.03	1.113	6.094
10.05.03	Stagnant	28.320	07.06.03	0.455	6.094
11.05.03	Stagnant	25.000	08.06.03	Stagnant	4.560
12.05.03	Stagnant	26.440	09.06.03	Stagnant	2.698
13.05.03	Stagnant	33.200	10.06.03	Stagnant	1.552
14.05.03	Stagnant	26.560	11.06.03	Stagnant	1.573
15.05.03	Stagnant	30.220	12.06.03	Nil	1.561
16.05.03	1.324	47.570	13.06.03	Stagnant	1.587
17.05.03	10.710	50.790	14.06.03	Stagnant	2.136
18.05.03	10.190	50.640	15.06.03	Stagnant	2.467
19.05.03	7.900	46.380	16.06.03	Stagnant	2.210
20.05.03	7.754	51.650	17.06.03	Stagnant	2.930
21.05.03	0.621	30.800	18.06.03	Stagnant	2.283
22.05.03	Stagnant	29.310	19.06.03	Stagnant	2.256
23.05.03	12.240	28.650	20.06.03	Stagnant	1.921
24.05.03	7.340	25.040	21.06.03	Stagnant	2.290
25.05.03	3.720	24.550	22.06.03	Stagnant	1.324
26.05.03	5.093	25.100	23.06.03	Stagnant	0.878
27.05.03	3.925	47.330	24.06.03	Stagnant	1.984
28.05.03	2.080	52.420	25.06.03	Stagnant	2.17
			26.06.03	Stagnant	2.195
			27.06.03	Stagnant	1.954
			28.06.03	Stagnant	1.971
			29.06.03	Stagnant	1.717
			30.06.03	Stagnant	1.72

Welfare of Workers In Unorganised Sector

1113. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to institute a board for the welfare of workers in the unorganised sector;

(b) if so, whether according to the proposed Unorganised Sector Worker's Act, 2003, the Central Unorganised Sector Workers' Welfare Board will comprise representatives for Non-Governmental Organisations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any draft legislation in this regard is likely to be considered; and

(e) if so, by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) A proposal to enact a legislation for Unorganised Sector Workers is under consideration of the Government.

Helipads in Gujarat

1114. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct helipads in Gujarat with the cooperation of State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to implement any airline projects with the help of State Governments to boost tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) At present, Indian Airlines operates to Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot and Vadodara in the State of Gujarat. Indian Airlines has recently entered

into an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Limited for joint promotion of tourism. Indian Airlines has also increased capacity on Delhi-Ahmedabad and Delhi-Vadodara routes in the current summer schedule.

Bilateral Aviation Agreements

1115. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have concluded a series of bilateral aviation agreements with foreign carriers on the basis of perfect reciprocity;

(b) if so, whether Thai Airways has been permitted to operate from Chennai and Bangalore using wide bodied Aircraft;

(c) if so, whether this would be detrimental to the business prospects of IA-AI particularly in the said sector; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the National flag carriers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Bilateral air service negotiations are concluded on the Basis of balance of advantage and reciprocity to either side. Besides factors like tourism promotion, facilitation of commerce and trade, improving air connectivity of India with rest of the world, commercial advantage to the national carriers are taken into account before concluding such agreements.

(b) During the last round of bilateral civil aviation consultations between India and Thailand, it has been decided inter alia that the designated airlines of Thailand will be entitled to operate 4 frequencies/1220 seats per week to/from both Chennai and Bangalore with effect from winter, 2003 and summer, 2004 respectively. They can also operate another frequency/305 seats each to/from Bangalore and Chennai with effect from winter, 2004.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Reciprocal enhancement in capacity has also been granted to Air India and Indian Airlines for operation to Thailand. Besides, the operations of the designated airlines of Thailand to Chennai and Bangalore will be subject to Commercial Agreement with the designated airlines of India. Designated airline of India will also be able to sell seats with its own flight number

to USA from Banglore and Chennai on the flights of Thai Airways. This will expand the network of designated airline of India.

World Bank Aided A.P. Forestry Project

1116. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has regretted certain lapses in implementation of the first phase of Andhra Pradesh Forestry project known as Joint Forest Management;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has also considered shifting cultivation lands under the Bank's resettlement policy;

(c) if so, whether the NGOs have pointed out to the World Bank that they reached an agreement with the Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing compensation to those affected; and

(d) if so, to what extent the World Bank has agreed to resettle victims of forestry projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) In the Andhra Pradesh Community Forest Management Project now under implementation, a provision has been made for rehabilitation and resettlement of people who are affected because of the project activities.

Import of Hazardous Waste

1117. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that environmentalists are viewing the new routes of hazardous waste too complex to tackle the mounting waste;

(b) if so, whether the rules finalised last month in this regard could effectively open the door to import of hazardous waste for recycling;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it has been made mandatory for reprocessors and recycles to register themselves with Central Pollution Control Board for disposal of waste;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or being taken by the Government on the views expressed by environmentalists in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (c) The Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules have been amended in May 2003 to rationalize & streamline the Rules for better management of indigenously generated and imported hazardous wastes. Under the amended Rules, 29 hazardous wastes have been prohibited for import and export. Further, while wastes covered under Schedule-4 can be imported only by registered re-cyclers, import of wastes listed under Schedule-3, would require permission of the Central Government.

(d) to (f) Yes Sir; Registration with the Central Pollution Control Board has been made mandatory for re-processors and re-cyclers of 22 identified hazardous wastes, as per Rule 19 and Schedule-4 of the amended Rules.

Animal Husbandry Centres

1118. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Animal Husbandry centres in the country for scientific development of animal husbandry in order to promote the white revolution;

(b) if so, the number of said centres set up in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of India is not implementing any Plan Schemes to set up Animal Husbandry Centres.

(b) and (c) The Question does not arise.

Spurious Pesticides in Indian Market

1119. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that various spurious pesticides are flooding the Indian markets;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that only genuine pesticides are dispensed in the market;

(c) whether the Government have testing facilities at State and National level;

(d) if so, the names of the States where such labs are located; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The Government has not received any report regarding spurious pesticides flooding the Indian markets. Quality control analysis statistics received from the States/UTs have found only 3% (approximately) of the pesticides to be misbranded.

(b) Import, manufacture, sale and distribution of pesticides is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968 and Insecticides Rules, 1971. There is a provision for registration of pesticides at the Central Government level and licensing for manufacturing and sale of pesticides by States/UT Governments after registration. The Act provides

for notification of four important functionaries for this purpose viz., Licensing Officer, Appellate Authority, Insecticide Inspector and Insecticide Analyst to ensure that only genuine/quality pesticides are dispensed/distributed in the market. Stringent administrative/legal against defaulters of law is taken by the States/UTs.

Further, the Government has set up a Task Force in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to get pesticide samples drawn for analysis, to check quality thereof by the notified Central Insecticide Inspectors.

There is a network of 46 State Pesticide Testing Laboratories and 2 Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories of the Central Government and the Central Insecticides Laboratory, of insecticides. About 50,000 samples are drawn and tested annually.

(c) to (e) 19 States and 1 UT have 46 State Pesticide Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) in the country with a total annual capacity of 56,116 samples (Annexure-I). Besides, two Regional Pesticide Testing Laboratories (RPTLs) at Kanpur and Chandigarh have also been set up for supplementing the resources of the States/UTs in the analysis of pesticides particularly for those States/UTs where do not have their own State Pesticide Testing Laboratory. At the Central level, Central Insecticides Laboratory has been set up under Section 16 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 to perform the statutory role of referral analysis.

The list of States where the Laboratories are located is enclosed as statement.

Statement***Pesticide Testing Laboratories in States/UTs***

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories	Location	Capacity of analysis per annum
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	Rajendra Nagar, Guntur, Anantapur, Tadepalligudem & Warangal	10000
2.	Assam	1	Guwahati	200
3.	Bihar	1	Patna	500
4.	Gujarat	2	Junagarh & Gandhinagar	2200
5.	Haryana	2	Karnal & Sirsa	2200

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Simla	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	Srinagar & Jammu	700
8.	Karnataka	5	Bangalore, Bellary, Dharwad, Shimoga & Kotnoor	6000
9.	Kerala	1	Trivendrum	2000
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Jabalpur	1000
11.	Maharashtra	4	Pune, Amaravathi, Thane & Aurangabad	5000
12.	Manipur	1	Mantipukhri	30
13.	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar	1000
14.	Punjab	3	Amritsar, Ludhiana & Bhatinda	3900
15.	Rajasthan	2	Jaipur, Bikaner	1200
16.	Tamil Nadu	9	Coimbatore, Kovilpatti, Erode, Madurai, Trichy, Aduthrai, Salem, Cuddalore & Kanchipuram	16236
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3	Meerut, Lucknow & Varanasi	3000
18.	West Bengal	1	Midnapore	450
19.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry	500
Total		46		56116

Area of Coverage-Respective States/UT.

Protected Monuments/Museums in Karnataka

1120. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of monuments/museums conserved by the Archaeological Survey of India in the State of Karnataka, location-wise;

(b) the amount spent and released on maintenance of each monument and museum during each of the last three years and proposed for 2003-2004;

(c) whether the maintenance being provided by ASI in these monuments/museums is satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) A list of centrally protected monuments including those in the state of Karnataka is available in Parliament Library.

(b) to (d) The expenditure incurred monument/museum-wise in the state of Karnataka for maintenance and structural repair as well as provision for 2003-2004 are as per enclosed statement-I and II respectively. The conservation of monuments, which is a continuous process, is taken up as per archaeological norms depending on availability of resources.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of Monument	Expenditure Incurred		
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.	Jyotirlinga Group of temples, Aihole	1,10,000.00	-	-
2.	Veniyargudi, Aihole	2,60,000.00	4,10,277.00	6,78,471.00
3.	Chakragudi & Badiger Gudi, Aihole	-	1,46,067.00	6,23,520.00
4.	Nadargudi, Aihole	-	-	4,15,704.00
5.	Charantimath, Aihole	-	-	7,00,300.00
6.	Huchchimaligudi, Aihole	-	-	4,90,900.00
7.	Group of Monuments, Pattadakal	3,32,700.00	-	-
8.	Group of Monuments, Pattadakal	3,67,199.00	50,000.00	-
9.	Papanatha Temple, Pattadakal	-	3,88,234.00	-
10.	Chandrshekhara temple, Pattadakal	-	2,65,634.00	1,87,749.00
11.	Agastya Teertha tank, Badami	2,66,994.00	2,30,684.00	-
12.	Malagitti Shivalaya temple, Badami	-	3,57,945.00	1,31,000.00
13.	North Fort, Badami	-	-	7,58,351.00
14.	North Bhutantha temple, Badami	-	-	9,18,341.00
15.	Jaina temple, Wakkund	1,86,987.00	2,93,000.00	-
16.	Safa Masjid, Belgaum	3,67,243.00	78,604.00	-
17.	Chaturmukha Basti, Gerusoppa	1,08,927.00	-	-
18.	Fort, Mirjan	3,49,842.00	1,48,000.00	-
19.	Fort at Mirjan	-	2,88,115.00	3,90,316.00
20.	Group of Monuments, Ashtur	2,04,552.00	2,54,895.00	-
21.	Madarasa Mohd. Gawan, Bidar	1,97,927.00	1,71,780.00	-
22.	Sola Kambh Mosque, Bidar	-	-	8,65,928.00
23.	Badi Kaman, Bijapur	18,710.00	1,05,873.00	-
24.	Gol-Gumbaz, Bijapur	4,85,101.00	13,767.00	-
25.	Jumma Masjid, Bijapur	4,65,352.00	28,925.00	-

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Asar Mahal, Bijapur	3,80,942.00	-	-
27.	Ibrahim Rouza, Bijapur	4,05,522.00	3,45,023.00	7,59,099.00
28.	Mehtari Mahal, Bijapur	1,05,302.00	77,236.00	15,000.00
29.	Haji Hasan Saheb Tomb, Bijapur	-	4,61,236.00	-
30.	Asar Mahal, Bijapur	-	2,90,915.00	3,86,968.00
31.	Gol-Gumbaz, Bijapur	-	3,73,604.00	-
32.	Karimuddin Mosque, Bijapur	-	1,24,465.00	30,000.00
33.	Mahal in the Field at Ainapur	2,27,419.00	92,411.00	-
34.	Chandramouleswara temple, Unkal	1,89,098.00	-	-
35.	Siddeswara temple, Haveri	4,98,173.00	-	-
36.	Great Mosque, Gulbarga	3,46,340.00	1,69,241.00	82,000.00
37.	Fort, Gulbarga	-	-	4,72,118.00
38.	Tarakeswara temple, Hangal	65,064.00	-	-
39.	Group of Monuments, Halshi	-	4,00,607.00	-
40.	Group of temples, Halshi	-	-	7,87,601.00
41.	Jattappanayakana, Chandranatha	-	4,50,085.00	1,72,208.00
42.	Veeragal, Bedkani	-	2,61,231.00	6,18,397.00
43.	Barid tomb, Udgir	-	85,325.00	-
44.	Two Fort Gates, Dharwad	-	45,677.00	3,83,853.00
45.	Madhukeswara temple, Banavasi	-	4,48,706.00	-
46.	Ancient Site, Gudnapur	-	2,41,863.00	19,277.00
47.	Excavated site (maha stupa) Kanaganahalli	-	-	2,33,179.00
48.	Bhoganandeswara temple, Nandi	3,01,374.00	-	-
49.	Tippu Sultan Palace, Bangalore	89,705.00	7,56,466.00	1,00,000.00
50.	Fort Dungaon & Gateway, Bangalore	-	2,29,470.00	1,05,289.00
51.	Someswara Temple, Kolar	1,74,966.00	1,02,207.00	-
52.	Fort & Temple, Chitradurga	1,50,000	7,06,889.00	2,33,521.00
53.	Kamanbagilu & Host Area, Chitradurga	-	-	11,17,321.00

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Kailaswara Temple, Bagali	60,000	3,35,732.00	-
55.	Chennakesava Temple, Arakere	2,05,785.00	88,291.00	-
56.	Hoysaleswara Temple, Halibid	2,47,629.00	1,23,266.00	-
57.	Keshaya Temple, Belur	4,20,426.00	1,18,692.00	3,25,727.00
58.	Vittala Temple, Venkatapur	1,16,000.00	-	3,94,800.00
59.	Chandikeswara Temple, Kamalapur	2,34,959.00	2,47,425.00	-
60.	Sasevekalu Ganেশa, Kamalapur	-	4,84,158.00	4,94,569.00
61.	Kadalekalu Ganেশa Kamalapur	-	9,71,037.00	19,95,671.00
62.	Fencing Royal Enclosure, Kamalapur	-	20,61,556.00	11,24,224.00
63.	Fort & Citadel, Belariy	1,00,000.00	5,45,860.00	3,20,525.00
64.	Keerthinarayana Temple, Talakad	6,74,128.00	4,68,528.00	2,72,334.00
65.	Vaideswara Temple, Talakad	-	65,000.00	60,000.00
66.	Srikanteswara Temple, Nanjangud	2,54,000.00	2,92,000.00	-
67.	Keshva Temple, Somanathpur	64,800.00	1,71,398.00	-
68.	Musafirkhana & Honda, Santhebennur	1,40,000.00	40,000.00	-
69.	Tripuranteswara Temple, Belligavi	1,81,505	-	-
70.	Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangapatna	1,24,217	4,06,417	-
71.	Nambinarayana Temple, Tonaur	3,07,146	1,75,356	-
72.	Dariya Daulath Bagh, Srirangapatna	70,000	2,41,379	-
Museums				
73.	Archaeological Museum, Aihole & Badami	3,55,000.00	7,35,000.00	12,23,327.00
74.	Archaeological Museum at Bijapur	5,55,000.00	7,82,000.00	4,94,952.00
75.	Archaeological Museum, Kamalapur Hampi	4,00,371.00	12,23,422.00	12,83,855.00
76.	Tippu Sultan Museum, Srirangapatna	4,19,000.00	4,98,708.00	4,04,743.00
77.	Archaeological Museum, Halebidu	3,99,511.00	2,94,807.00	5,79,564.00

Statement II

Sl. No.	Name of the Monument	Proposal For 2003-04 In Rs.
1	2	3
1.	Chakragudi & Badigergudi, Aihole	2,03,880
2.	Nadar Gudi, Aihole	5,62,300
3.	Charanthimath, Aihole	2,65,700
4.	Veniyavargudi Complex, Aihole	3,16,000
5.	Huchchimaligudi, Aihole	3,75,600
6.	Fort, Mirjan	4,27,600
7.	Jattappanaikana, Bhatkal	5,93,100
8.	Ibrahim Rouza, Bijapur	2,30,920
9.	Chandramouleswara Temple, Unkal	3,08,900
10.	Fort, Gulbarga	4,77,000
11.	Excavated site, Kanaganahalli	2,00,000
12.	Great Mosque, Gulbarga	2,00,000
13.	Karimudding Mosque, Bijapur	3,00,000
14.	Mehatarimahai, Bijapur	2,00,000
15.	Asar Mahal, Bijapur	2,00,000
16.	Two fort gates, Dharwad	4,00,000
17.	Jyotirlinga Complex, Aihole	64,000
18.	Mallikarjuna Complex, Aihole	75,000
19.	Agastya Teertha Tank, Badami	1,00,000
20.	North Fort at Badami	1,00,000
21.	North Bhutanatha Temple, Badami	1,00,000
22.	Cave No. 1, Badami, Dist: Bagalkot	1,00,000
23.	Kasivisveswara, Sangameswara and Jambulingeswara temples and subsidiary Structures, Pattadakal	1,00,000
24.	Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakal	1,00,000
25.	Papanatha Temple, Pattadakal	1,00,000
26.	Galaganatna Temple, Pattadakal	1,00,000

1	2	3
27.	Suvarneswara Temple in the Group of Temples at Halshi	1,00,000
28.	Chandranatha Basti, Haduvalli	1,00,000
29.	Rangeen Mahal, Bidar	1,00,000
30.	Fort, Bidar	20,00,000
31.	Gol-Gumbaz, Bijapur	1,00,000
32.	Sangeet & Nari Mahal Torvi	1,00,000
33.	Mahadeva Temple, Ittagi	5,00,000
34.	Haft Gumbaz Complex, Gulbarga	1,00,000
35.	Galaganatha, Dist: Haveri	1,00,000
36.	Madhukeshwara Temple, Banavasi	1,00,000
37.	Ramalingeswara Temple, Avani	1,70,000
38.	Old Dungeon and Fort, Bangalore	10,00,000
39.	Tipu Sultan Place, Bangalore	8,50,000
40.	Kamanabagilu & Moat area, Chitradurga	11,17,321
41.	Keshava Temple, Belur	2,40,000
42.	Fort & Citadel of Tippu Sultan & Nagalacheru	9,50,000
43.	Lokapavani/Stepped Tank, Venkatapur	9,00,000
44.	Vittala Temple and Vittala Bazar, Venkatapur	10,00,000
45.	Vittala Temple, Venkatapur	10,00,000
46.	Ananthasayana Temple, Ananthasayanagudi	10,00,000
47.	Group of monuments, Belligavi	15,00,000
48.	Hariharieswara Temple, Harihar	3,00,000
49.	Suryanarayana Temple, Magala	1,00,000
50.	Iswara Temple, Arasikere	1,40,000
51.	Old Shiva Temple, Venkatapuram	6,00,000
52.	Vaidyeswara Temple, Talkad	1,90,000
53.	Mohammadan Tombs, Kadirampura	10,00,000

1	2	3
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Museums

54.	Archaeological Museum, Hampi	15,00,000
55.	Tipu Sultan Museum, Srirangapatna	8,00,000
56.	Archaeological Museum, Halibidue	11,00,000
57.	Archaeological Museum, Aihole & Badami	18,22,000
58.	Archaeological Museum, Bijapur	9,77,000

AI flights from Thiruvananthapuram**Flights per week**

1121. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air-India has suspended 17 international flights from Thiruvananthapuram ever since the Nedumbasserry Airport commenced operation;

(b) if so, the number of flights that have been reinstated for operation from Thiruvananthapuram International Airport; and

(c) the number of new flights that has been sanctioned since then?

(i) Dubai	5
(ii) Abu Dhabi/Muscat	3
(iii) Muscat	1
(iv) Al-Ain	1
(v) Dammam	1
(vi) Riyadh	4
(vii) Kuwait	1

Setting up of Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses

1122. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a technology mission on oilseeds and pulses;

(b) if so, the salient features of the activities of technology mission since its inception; and

(c) the details of the various works undertaken by the technology mission for the development of oilseeds and pulses in the country including Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Consequent to the commissioning of the Nedumbasserry airport and based on market survey of the traffic flow from Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram following flights operating Ex/Via Thiruvananthapuram were cancelled and re-routed to operate via Kochi instead of Thiruvananthapuram: (i) Dammam/Thiruvananthapuram (2 Flights) to Dammam/Kochi/Dammam (2 Flights), (ii) Abu Dhabi/Thiruvananthapuram/Abu Dhabi/Dubai to Abu Dhabi/Kochi/Abu Dhabi/Dubai, (iii) Thiruvananthapuram/Doha/Bahrain/Thiruvananthapuram to Kochi/Doha/Bahrain/Kochi, (iv) Thiruvananthapuram/Dubai/Thiruvananthapuram to Kochi/Dubai, (v) Muscat/Thiruvananthapuram/Muscat to Muscat/Kochi/Muscat. Presently, Air-India is operating direct flights between Thiruvananthapuram and Abu Dhabi, Al-Ain, Dammam, Dubai, Kuwait, Muscat and Riyadh.

(b) and (c) The pattern of operations Ex Thiruvananthapuram to the following destinations have been restructured and is as follows:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had set up a Technology Mission on Oilseeds in 1986. Subsequently, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize were added to the Mission

in 1990, 1992-93 and 1995-96 respectively. The objectives of the Technology Mission are:

- (i) to increase the production of these crops;
- (ii) to increase the productivity of these crops;
- (iii) to reduce the import of edible oils and pulses.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in the country, the Mission has launched two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) in various States including Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. Under both these schemes, financial assistance is provided on various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture and micro nutrients etc. In order to disseminate the production technology amongst the farmers frontline demonstrations are organized by the I.C.A.R. and block demonstrations are organized by the State Deptt. of Agriculture.

Loss to Crops by Elephants' Attack

1123. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing destruction of paddy crops, small hamlets and dwelling units by elephants in various States including Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check such elephant menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) and (b) The Government are aware of the damage being caused by elephants to agricultural crops and dwelling units in and around elephant habitats in various States. However, there is no definite trend of the damage as can be seen from the following details provided by some of the States including Orissa:

State	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Andhra Pradesh	8.4 ha	2.4 ha	1 ha
Meghalaya	1290 ha + 139 huts	252 ha + 52 huts	372 ha + 158 huts
Nagaland	501 ha + 62 huts	1002 ha + 36 huts	1220 ha + 10 huts
Orissa	800 ha + 262 huts	1283 ha + 167 huts	1157 ha + 960 huts
Uttaranchal	68 ha	135 ha	88 ha
West Bengal	2721 ha + 1100 huts	2568 ha + 1000 huts	2820 ha + 1200 huts

As informed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, elephants were responsible for damage to 861 ha of crop and 725 houses in Orissa during the year 2002-03.

(c) The methods normally adopted by the State Forest Departments for dealing with the problem of depredation by elephants comprise the following:

1. Erecting barriers (trenches, electric fencing etc.) to stop straying of elephants into agricultural fields, villages and other sensitive areas.
2. Distributing crackers, search lights etc. among the villagers for chasing away elephants from agricultural fields.
3. Engaging special wildlife squads in strategic locations for helping people in driving elephants back into forests.

4. Identifying and eliminating 'rouge' elephants.
5. Undertaking habitat-development works for elephants within forests.
6. Establishing and protecting elephant corridors.
7. Educating the people to live in harmony with elephants.
8. Undertaking eco-development works in villages situated on the fringe of forests for reducing their dependence on forests for firewood, fodder and grazing of cattle.
9. Paying ex-gratia relief to the affected people for loss of human life, crop and houses.

Government of India provides financial assistance to major elephant bearing states under Project Elephant for

improvement of elephant habitat, mitigation of human-elephant conflict and payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims of elephant-depredation. During 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 939 lakh was provided to 14 States including Orissa, which included Rs. 260.50 lakh for the purpose of anti-depredation measures and Rs. 168.50 lakh for ex-gratia relief.

Birth Place of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

1124. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering a proposal to convert and develop Janakinath Bhavan, the birth place of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at Cuttack into a national museum;

(b) if so, whether the State Government of Orissa has sought any assistance for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the grants released by the Union Government to implement the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A grant of Rs. 150.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for the development of the ancestral house of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as a Museum and Rs. 75.00 lakhs has already been released to Netaji Birthplace Museum Trust set up by the State Government of Orissa.

Aid for Heritage Programme

1125. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought financial assistance from the UNESCO under its preservation and promotion of intangible cultural heritage programme for the propagation of Vedas;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance sought for;

(c) whether UNESCO have agreed to release the desired amount of funds; and

(d) the manner in which the funds provided by UNESCO are to be utilized for the propagation of Vedas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) A proposal of Indira Gandhi National

Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) seeking financial assistance for preparing a candidature file on "The Oral Tradition of the Vedas and Vedic Heritage" under the UNESCO programme "Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral & Intangible Heritage of Humanity" has been submitted to UNESCO.

(b) US\$ 20,000 (US Dollars twenty thousand).

(c) UNESCO has since released US\$ 18,000 to IGNCA for preparing the candidature file.

(d) The funds provided by UNESCO are to be utilized for preparing the candidature file. This includes undertaking surveys; organizing meetings of experts, scholars and practitioners; preparation of audio-video documentation; preparation of the candidature file, and an action plan.

Modern Technology for Agriculture in Assam

1126. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for promoting modern technology for agriculture in Assam and the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the central aid given to Assam and other North-Eastern States thereunder; and

(d) the action taken and progress made so far in implementation of the plan projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) There are several Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes already under implementation promoting modern technology for agricultural development in the North-Eastern States, including Assam. A list of the schemes is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1. Technology Mission on Horticulture for North East Region and Jammu & Kashmir and Uttaranchal.

2. Macro Management Scheme.
3. On Farm Water Management.
4. Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP).
5. National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP).
6. Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP).
7. Timely Reporting of Estimates of Area and Production of Principal Crops (TRS).
8. Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS).
9. Establishment of Agency for Reporting Statistics (EARAS).
10. Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops.
11. Improvement of Agriculture Statistics.
12. Agriculture Census.

Central Sector Schemes

13. Investment in Debenture of State Land Development Banks (SLDBs).
14. Cooperative Education and Training.
15. Cooperative Marketing, Processing and Storage in Cooperatively underdeveloped States/UTs.
16. Share capital participation in Cooperative Spinning Mills.
17. Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business.
18. Strengthening of Agriculture Extension Services.
19. Training of Women in Agriculture.
20. Human Resource Development/Training Support to Agriculture.
21. Information Support/Management Information System.
22. Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank.
23. Transport Subsidy on Seeds to National Seeds Corporation/State Farms Corporation of India/State Seeds Corporation/Agro-Industries/Apex/Cooperative Federation/Societies etc.
24. Quality Control Arrangement on Seeds.

I.C.A.R.

1127. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has devised an original kit for different diagnosis of Pestis-de-pestitis Rumanantis (PPR) and rinderpest using CELISA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are no such kits in other parts of the world;

(d) if so, the details of the treatment given to victims of these diseases elsewhere;

(e) whether ICAR has not come up with suitable kits or cures for a number of common diseases affecting cattle; and

(f) the steps proposed to assess such claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has indigenously developed CELISA kit for differential diagnosis of Rinderpest and Pestis-de-pestitis Rumanantis (PPR).

(c) Only one kit for differential diagnosis of Rinderpest and PPR is available in the world.

(d) The kit is used only for confirmative differential diagnosis of above two diseases and not for treatment.

(e) ICAR has developed kits for diagnosis of important common diseases of cattle namely Foot & Mouth Disease Rinderpest, PPR, Brucella, Infectious Bovine Rhinotrachaitis and other important diseases. Vaccines for prevention of these diseases are available.

(f) The newly developed diagnostic kits/vaccines are developed using International guidelines and Indian Pharmacopoeia and validated by the regulatory agencies.

Seminars on Artificial Recharge Training

1128. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has organized seminars for engineers and architects in "Water Management and Artificial Recharge Training" in 2002-03;

(b) if so, the number of seminars organized on the theme;

(c) whether the participants paid any fee to the CGWB; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) No such seminar was organized by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). However, CGWB has conducted 32 training programmes during 2002-2003 in different parts of the country with an objective to educate the masses on water management and artificial recharge. These programmes were attended by representatives from Central/State Government Organisations, NGOs, Voluntary Organisations, professionals including engineers and architects. No fees are charged in these training programmes.

[*Translation*]

Minimum Support Prices for Sugarcane

1129. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per tonne hike made by the Government in the Minimum Support Price of sugarcane during each of the last three years and the demand of the sugarcane growers in regard thereto;

(b) whether the Government have ensured that the sugarcane growers have got the increased prices that too on time through the respective State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to ensure reasonable Minimum Support Price to the sugarcane growers in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The increase in the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane in each of the last three sugar season from 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 with reference to the sugar seasons preceding them was Rs. 3.40, Rs. 2.55 and Rs. 7.45 per quintal respectively. There was no uniform or specific demand/proposal from any sugarcane growers' organization in this regard.

(b) to (d) The responsibility to ensure that the sugarcane growers receive increased prices is that of State Governments. In November, 2000, the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 was amended to confer powers on the State Government(s) to recover the cane price arrears (including interest) as an arrear of land revenue. The State Governments may use these powers to ensure payment of SMP to the sugarcane growers, subject to Court Orders, if any.

[*English*]

Harnessing of Rivers' Water

1130. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made by the Government for optimum utilization of rivers' water;

(b) if so, the extent of success achieved as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government have not been able to harness rivers' water to its potential;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the names of rivers for which schemes have been formulated to harness rivers' water during the last three years alongwith progress made thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The utilizable surface water is assessed as 690 billion cubic metre (BCM) and the annual replenishable ground water resource is about 432 BCM. Presently 605 BCM of water is being utilized for diverse purposes. In order to make optimum utilization of rivers' water in the country for irrigation and other uses and for their efficient use, storage capacity of 177 BCM

has been created. Another 75 BCM of storage will be created on completion of projects which are under various stages of construction. Proposals for additional projects are also under formulation/consideration for creation of storage capacity of 132 BCM. To accelerate creation of irrigation potential by early completion of ongoing schemes, Government of India has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rainwater harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis. For meeting future requirements of water, as a long term measure, National Water Development Agency have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers.

(c) and (d) Utilizable water has not been fully harnessed as many contemplated scheme are under various stages of construction. Some schemes are at investigation and planning stage.

(e) Water being a State subject, all water resources projects including formulation of the schemes for harnessing rivers' water are planned, funded and implemented by the concerned State Government. The number of schemes which have been received by Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal from July, 2000 to June, 2003 for various river basins are given in the statement enclosed. Out of these, 49 projects are under various stages of appraisal, 12 projects have been accepted by the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations and one project has been recommended to Planning Commission for investment clearance.

Statement

New Schemes under Techno-Economic Appraisal from July, 2000 to June, 2003 for various River Basins

Sl.No.	Name of Basin	Number of Schemes
1	2	3
1.	Indus	1
2.	Krishna	14

1	2	3
3.	Nagavali	3
4.	Ganga	4
5.	Godavari	10
6.	Sone	1
7.	Mahanadi	3
8.	Tapi	14
9.	Brahmaputra	1
10.	Baitarni	1
11.	Gomti	1
12.	Betwa	2
13.	Yamuna	1
14.	Anandpur Hydrel Channel	1
15.	Sutlej	1
16.	Ferozpur Feeder	1
17.	Chenab	1
Total		60

Rules for Construction of Toilets Along Sea Coast

1131. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to ban on construction of toilets along the sea coast under the rules, the people defecate along the beaches thus leading to stink and high pollution defeating the very purpose;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review the relevant rules in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV):(a) to (c) As per the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 as amended from time to time, construction of toilets is permitted in Coastal Regulation Zone-II areas, in Coastal Regulation Zone-I

areas for traditional inhabitants of Sunderbans Bio-sphere Reserve area, West Bengal and in Coastal Regulation Zone-III areas for the use of local inhabitants. Construction of toilets is also permitted in Coastal Regulation Zone-IV areas which are categorized as Coastal Regulation Zone-II and III areas as per the above.

New Flights by Air India

1132. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is considering to further add new routes in Europe and Africa;

(b) if so, whether the Government will support Air India to acquire new aircraft on lease or through fresh purchases to strengthen the fleet of Air India; and

(c) whether Air India is considering a weekly flight to Russia with a stop over at Budapest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Announcement of Support Price

1133. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States like Madhya Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh have demanded that the support price for the agricultural commodities be announced one crop season in advance;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to announce the support price this year one crop season in advance as per the demand of above States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, all efforts are made to announce the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities at the earliest before the sowing

season. The MSPs announced by the Govt. are uniform all over the country.

Subsidy for Export of Agricultural Produce

1134. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any efforts to provide subsidy to the farmers for export of agricultural produce and to lift the quantitative restrictions thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrangements have been made by the Government for advancing loans to the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the value of the agro-based exports made during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the WTO Agreement on Agriculture the Developing countries are permitted to provide support to their agricultural exports in terms of reimbursement of cost of marketing including handling, grading and processing costs and international and internal transport and freight charges. Government has been reimbursing some of these costs mainly on export of wheat and rice. The quantitative restrictions on exports of almost all the agricultural commodities except those on some varieties of seeds (planting material) have been removed.

(c) and (d) The institutional credit system i.e. Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks make available credit to the farmers for undertaking agricultural operations. The flow of institutional credit for agriculture and allied activities has increased from Rs. 31956 crore in the year 1997-98 to Rs. 61942 crore in 2001-02 and is estimated to reach Rs. 75000 crore in the year 2002-03.

(e) The export of agricultural products (excluding tea, coffee, Marine, cotton incl. waste and castor oil) during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Exports (value Rs. Lakhs)
2000-2001	1677348.32
2001-2002	1876287.51
2002-2003	2118476.02

[English]

Misuse of Official Car

1135. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some top level officers from ICAR are reported to have visited Meerut, Dehradun, Mussourie frequently by official cars;

(b) if so, the details such visits during the last six months alongwith the purpose of such visits and the achievements made thereunder, if any;

(c) whether the requisite prior approval from the competent authority was obtained; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) and (b) Senior officers of ICAR have visited Meerut, Modipuram, Dehradun, Mussourie by official cars for official purpose. A statement of details in this regard is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

Director General, ICAR & Secy., (DARE)

Dates	Placed visited	Purpose
24.1.03 to 26.1.03	Delhi to Modipuram and back.	Visited Modipuram once after taking over as Secretary (D) DG, ICAR. His visit helped in prioritizing and rationalizing research and administrative work including seed production activities at the ICAR Institutes located there.
<i>AS (D) & Secretary, ICAR</i>		
24.1.03 to 26.1.03	Delhi to Modipuram and back.	Meeting with officials of PDCSR, PDC and CPRS, Modipuram.
8.3.03 to 10.3.03	Delhi to Modipuram and back	To attend the International Conference on Processing of Potatoes within Asia at CPRS, Modipuram.
17.3.03 to 23.3.03	Delhi to Mussoorie, Mussoorie to Dehradun, Dehradun to Mussoorie. & Mussoorie To Delhi.	Visit ICAR Institute at Dehradun and attend inter-active session at LBSNAA, Mussourie.
13.4.03 to 14.4.03	Delhi to Modipuram and back.	Follow up meeting (held in Jan'03) with the officials of PDCSR, PDC & CPRS, Modipuram.
14.6.03 to 19.6.03	Delhi to Modipuram (by ICAR staff car) Meerut to Dehradun by train, Dehradun to Mussoorie by road, Mussoorie to Dehradun by road and Dehradun to Delhi by train.	To deliver lecture and attend Session on Ethical issues in administration at LBSNAA, Mussourie.

Cheating by Travelling Agents

1136. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian labourers are being duped by travelling agents and sent to Gulf countries with illegal documents;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cases registered against such agents, State-wise;

(c) whether the Governments have set up a cell to scrutinise the travel papers of unskilled labourers before they board their flights in order to avoid the misery the labourers have to undergo on the foreign soil;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Sporadic complaints alleging adoption of various malpractices by the recruiting agents are received from time to time. Since January 2002 two cases of forgery of travel documents, i.e. employment visas and Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) stamps of Protector of Emigrants came to the notice of Protector of Emigrants, Delhi. These have been referred to the Police Authorities for appropriate action.

(c) to (e) The travel papers of unskilled workers are checked and cleared by the concerned Protector of Emigrants (POE). POE's are also authorised to conduct inspections at Airports to check whether travel documents of the person going abroad including unskilled labour are in order. Immigration Check Posts at all international Airports are also vigilant in this matter.

Supply of Foodgrains to Karnataka

1137. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to make a special allocation of foodgrains to Karnataka to produce animal feed; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No request from the Government of Karnataka has been received for the allotment of foodgrains to produce animal feed.

(b) Question does not arise.

Unviable Route of IA

1138. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines is incurring huge losses as it continue to operate on seemingly unviable routes;

(b) if so, whether 24 of the 70 domestic services operated by the airline during 2001-02 did not meet even the direct (cash) cost of operations;

(c) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to ameliorate the situation;

(d) whether any concrete proposal in this regard have been worked out for 2002-03 and 2003-04; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Indian Airlines including Alliance Air has been operating on several uneconomical sectors on the domestic network mainly due to Socio-economic obligations. The excess deployment of capacity on Category-II & Category-III routes as against the minimum DGCA requirements results in considerable losses to Indian Airlines. Being a public sector enterprise, Indian Airlines is not in a position to run entirely on commercial principles as it has to fulfil the responsibility of regional connectivity and development.

Government reviews the performance of the company on regular basis and efforts are made to improve the economic viability of operations to the extent possible in consultation with other Ministries.

Court of Inquiry for Coal Mines Mishaps

1139. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have instituted a court of inquiry into the coal mine mishap at Godavarikhani in which 17 miners lost their lives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received the report;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government for the safety of the workers of coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) A decision has been taken to constitute the Court of Inquiry under the Chairmanship of sitting Judge of the High Court to enquire into the Godavarikhani Coal Mine Accident.

(b) Notification constituting the Court of Inquiry under section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952 is being issued accordingly.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) The safety, welfare and health of workers employed in mines are regulated by the Mines Act, 1952 and Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The compliance of these provisions to ensure safety of workers is the responsibility of the mine managements. The Directorate General of Mines Safety enforces and oversees the compliance of statutory provisions to minimize accidents. Besides the legislative measures, initiatives are also taken for promotion of safety awareness amongst the workers and mine managements by the Government through following measures:-

- (i) Conference on safety in mines.
- (ii) Self-regulation by managements.
- (iii) Workers' participation in safety management.
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels.
- (v) Training of work persons.
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and safety campaign.
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

Alliance Aircraft for VVIP's

1140. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an aircraft has been commissioned by Air Force from Alliance Airways for use by VVIPs;

(b) if so, whether this has forced the Alliance to curtail its regular schedules causing inconvenience to its customers;

(c) if so, Alliance is losing a committed and long-standing customer base to the private carriers as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Indian Airlines, is an effort to ease pressure on Alliance, had to operate an Airbus 320 on three new routes; and

(e) if so, the details of the said flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) One Boeing 737 aircraft has been provided on dry lease to the Indian Air Force for the period 15th June to 31st October, 2003.

(b) to (e) There has been no adverse impact on Alliance Air's schedule as a consequence of this arrangement. Interchange of services from Boeing 737 to Airbus 320 and vice versa is a normal practice to meet

operational and traffic requirements of Indian Airlines and Alliance Air. Alliance Air was temporarily operating three services on behalf of Indian Airlines with Boeing 737 aircraft. These services were operating on the Delhi/Ahmedabad, Delhi/Srinagar/Jammu and Delhi/Pune routes. These services have since been transferred back to the Airbus 320 network.

Investment in Animal Husbandry Department

1141. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have enhanced the allocation for the Animal Husbandry Department from Rs. 1677.88 crore to Rs. 2345.64 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan under special action plan;

(b) if so, whether due to poor performance the budgetary provision for the Department was brought down to Rs. 1682.95 crore;

(c) if so, the reasons for non-performance and not utilizing the amount;

(d) whether the Government have overhauled and restricted their plan for the schemes to the benefit of Animal Husbandry and Dairying during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying was initially earmarked a Plan allocation of Rs. 1677.88 crores for implementing various Plan Schemes during the Ninth Plan which was later enhanced to Rs. 2345.64 crores in pursuance of government strategy for doubling of food production. The actual cumulative budgetary allocation for the entire Ninth Plan however, had been Rs. 1682.95 crores. The Annual Budgetary allocations are decided by the Planning Commission on the basis of proposals forwarded by the Department, overall economic scenario, financial resources, past performance etc.

(d) and (e) The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying in preparation of Tenth Plan proposals, carried out a Zero Based budgeting exercise to streamline the Plan schemes through weeding out/merger of schemes. As a result of this, the number of Plan Schemes have been reduced to 17 for the Tenth Plan which also include three new Schemes with a total Plan outlay of Rs. 2500 crores.

Joint Venture Project for Deep Sea Tuna Fishery

1142. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for according sanction for joint venture project with World Tuna Development

International Inc. (WTDI) for the exploitation of deep Sea Tuna Fishery;

(b) if so, whether the requisite information desired by the Union Government has been furnished by the Andhra Pradesh Government.

(c) if so, when was said information received by the Government; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Full particulars as required by the Union Government have not been furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Certain clarifications from other concerned Central Ministries also awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The proposal can be further examined only on receipt of all requisite information.

Development of Thiruvananthapuram Airport

1143. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for the development of the existing Runway and Construction of compound wall for Thiruvananthapuram Airport;

(b) by when the work is likely to start;

(c) whether any proposal is being considered by the Government to provide aero-bridges at Thiruvananthapuram Airport;

(d) whether any action has been taken to replace the outdated vehicles used for transportation of passengers at the airport; and

(e) if so, the current status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) An amount of Rs. 18.37 crores has been sanctioned for strengthening of main runway and other operational pavements including construction of drains and Rs. 5.00 Crores for standardisation of compound wall and fencing of operational area.

(b) The work relating to strengthening of main runway and allied works is likely to start in November, 2003 and the work of construction of compound wall has already started.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Replacement of vehicles used for transportation of passengers from aircraft to the building is a continuous procuring three vehicles which are to be operationalised in three to four months time and Air India

is in the process of procuring new vehicles which is expected to be in place in the next six to seven months.

New Civil Aviation Policy

1144. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a five member panel to formulate a New National Civil Aviation Policy;

(b) if so, whether the panel has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the date by when it is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the present Civil Aviation Policy has failed to developed the civil aviation sector;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the development of civil aviation sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Government has constituted a five-member Committee on 21st July, 2003 to prepare a roadmap for the civil aviation sector that will provide the basis for a New National Civil Aviation Policy.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The policy of Government is to facilitate creation of an efficient and competitive civil aviation sector in which viable and sustainable air transport services and aviation infrastructure is developed in accordance with the highest standards of service, safety and security. In this process, apart from providing connectivity, synergies with trade, commerce and tourism are established, economic growth is achieved and employment opportunities are created.

Management of Water Resources

1145. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy for efficient management of water resources in North East Region in the context of inter-linking of river basins; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the main objective of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Government of India has adopted National Water Policy-2002 which *inter alia* provides that water should be made available to water short areas by transfer from one river basin to another, based as a national perspective, after taking into account the requirements of the basin/areas.

The Government has formulated a proposal for inter-linking of rivers in the country. The proposal consists of two components, namely, Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular River Development Component. Apart from others, the Himalayan Component also includes a proposal for transferring surplus waters from river Brahmaputra in Assam to river Ganga in West Bengal through a link named Manas-Sankosh-Teesta-Ganga Link.

Cataloguing of Species of Fish by ICAR

1146. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has claimed that it has catalogued 2100 species of fish;

(b) if so, the cost of such cataloguing borne by ICAR;

(c) the details of varieties which are yet to be catalogued by ICAR; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by ICAR to focus on diseases affecting fish in ponds, lakes and such other water bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 150/-laks.

(c) In addition to the finfishes, other economically important freshwater and marine organisms like shrimps, prawns, molluscs and echinoderms etc. will also be catalogued which constitute around 5000 species.

(d) The following steps are being taken for prevention of diseases affecting fish in ponds, lakes and other water bodies:

- (i) Surveillance of exotic/native pathogens in ponds, lakes and reservoirs.
- (ii) Use of prophylactics and therapeutants against diseases e.g. CIFAX for ulcerative syndrome of carps.
- (iii) Development of rapid molecular diagnostic kits/assays for screening of pathogens (native/exotic).
- (iv) Development of fish vaccines and probiotics and disease diagnostic kits.
- (v) Adoption of Good Management Culture Practices/HACCP.

Soil-Erosion Maps

1147. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICAR has made soil-erosion maps for all the States in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the scientific basis on which these maps were made; and

(d) the specific institute which was responsible for collecting and examining the data on soil-erosion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) The soil erosion maps have been completed for 19 states and work is in progress for others.

(b) These maps are useful for assessing erosion hazards in different regions of the country and to suggest appropriate remedial measures.

(c) Universal Soil Loss Equation was employed to estimate the potential soil loss on 10 km x 10 km grid basis.

(d) The Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute, Dehradun is responsible for the said purpose.

ILO Report on Equality at Work

1148. SHRIMATI PRABHA RAU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released recently a report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on Equality at Work.

(b) if so, the salient features of the report;

(c) whether the report reveals that women are placed in the unskilled lower paying wage category; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government in collaboration with the ILO Area Office, New Delhi jointly released the ILO's Global Report titled "Time for Equality at Work" on the 12th of May 2003.

(b) if salient features of the Report are:

- (i) Discrimination is still a common problem in the workplace.
- (ii) Progress in fighting discrimination at work has been uneven and patchy, even for long recognised forms such as discrimination against women.

- (iii) Inequalities within the discriminated groups are widening.
 - (iv) Discrimination often traps people in low-paid, informal economy jobs.
 - (v) The failure to eradicate discrimination helps perpetuate poverty.
 - (vi) Everyone gains from eliminating discrimination at work-individual, enterprises and society at large.
- (c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Minimum Wage Act, 1948 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 in the country have been legislated with a view to ensure gender equality at the workplace. The State Governments are empowered/ authorised to initiate action against the violation of payment of equal remuneration and payment of minimum wage at the workplace, whenever required, under the Equal Remuneration Act and Minimum Wage Act respectively.

Lightning Conductor on Monuments

1149. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of the tall historic buildings/monuments across the country are either not equipped with adequate lighting conductors or the lightning conductors have become defunct, which may result in severe damage to the structure in case of lightning during the rainy season;

(b) if so, the reason for such a careless attitude towards the protected monuments; and

(c) the immediate steps being taken by the Government for proper protection of monuments against lightning?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Lightning conductors are provided to monuments wherever necessary and are subjected to periodical checking by concerned agencies and replaced where it is found defunct.

[*Translation*]

Macro Management Schemes

1150. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Macro Management Schemes are being run in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to sanction more funds for the above said schemes in these States during 2003-04;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore 50% grants curtailed to the farmers during 2001-02; and

(d) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard and the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Macro Management of Agriculture is being implemented in all the States/UTs including Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Funds as provided and approved by Planning Commission are released to States/UTs on the basis of average assistance provided during the first 3 years of 9th Plan under 27 component schemes, the performance of the States as well as unspent balances with the States. Funds are released as per guidelines fixed by the Ministry of Finance for the Scheme.

(c) The Macro Management Scheme was operationalized from the year 2000-01 and the assistance payable for the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 was kept at the same level as approved under the 27 identified Schemes subsumed in the Macro Management Scheme. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Scheme of Macro Management during the X Plan with the stipulation that subsidy per farmer or per activity should not exceed 25% of the cost or the present subsidy level approved under 27 identified schemes, whichever is lower.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

World Class Airports

1151. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have worked out the modalities to have world-class airports;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been initiated by the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when the proposals are likely to be implemented; and

(e) the extent to which the security measures have been improved at all the airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Government of India in January, 2000 approved the restructuring of the airports of Airports Authority of India through long term lease route as and when found suitable. At the first instance, the airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata were taken up for the restructuring

exercise. In addition to the existing initiatives for leasing of major airports, it is proposed to take up the Delhi and Mumbai airports for modernization to international standards. Two separate companies will be formed with initial equal equity participation from the Airports Authority. These two companies could also take Joint Venture partners.

(d) The proposal is under consideration. Hence no definite time frame can be given at this stage.

(e) Specially trained CISF groups (Airport Security Group) have been inducted at 47 airports for performing anti-hijacking and perimeter security duties. All old security equipments are being gradually replaced with new state-of-art equipments like coloured X-BIS etc. Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) have been installed in terminal buildings at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Trivandrum, Amritsar, Jammu, Srinagar, Goa, Cochin, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Ahmedabad.

Session of ILO

1152. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
DR. M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation headed by Union Labour Minister attended the 91st session of ILO held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the points raised by the participants; and

(c) the outcome thereof and the final decision arrived at, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several issues were taken up for discussion in the Conference. The details of the same and of the points raised by the participants on the same are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) The details of the outcomes of the discussions and the final decisions taken on the various items on the agenda of the Conference are given in the statement-II enclosed.

Statement-I

The agenda of the Conference included the following:

Standing Items

- I. (a) Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General.
- (b) Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

II. Programme and Budget proposals for 2004-05 and other questions.

III. Information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations.

Items placed on the agenda of the Conference by the Governing Body.

IV. Human resources training and development-Revision of the Human Resources Development Recommendation, 1975 (No. 150) (*Standard setting, first discussion*).

V. The scope of the employment relationship (*general discussion*).

VI. ILO standards-related activities in the area of occupational safety and health: An in-depth study for discussion with a view to the elaboration of a plan of action for such activities (*general discussion based on an integrated approach*).

VII. Improved security of seafarers' identification (*standard setting, single discussion, with a view to the adoption of a Protocol or other instrument*).

Intervening in the discussions on the Director-General's report, Dr. Sahib Singh Verma, the Hon'ble Labour Minister informed the august gathering of International delegates to the Conference that a sincere and dedicated approach is required in this regard. It was stressed by him that several measures have been taken to meet this global challenge, adequate provisions exist for equality in the Constitution of India and various legislations are effectively in force. Specially focussed programmes are being implemented for creating additional employment and enhancing income generation aimed at helping vulnerable groups, which may not be sufficiently benefited from the more general growth promoting policies. The august forum of international delegates was also appraised of the efforts taken by the Government of India in this direction. The Hon'ble Labour Minister asserted that there should not be any discrimination on the basis of race, creed, religion and geographical division.

In this intervention on the Global Report, which this year was on the subject 'Time for Equality at Work', the Hon'ble Minister of State for Labour emphasized that the work place is a strategic entry point to eliminate discrimination, Government efforts with regard to a positive and pro-active policy in tackling the problem of discrimination through constitutional, legal, statutory and developmental measures, were placed before the other international delegates.

In the Finance Committee, India supported and voted in favour of "Zero Actual Growth Budget" prepared by ILO.

It was mentioned in the Committee on Human Resources Training and Development, that it would be worthwhile for the ILO to develop an international skill

development fund" so as to help poor countries to venture into large-scale skills training activities and improve their competitiveness.

In the Committee on Employment Relationship, it was made clear that training and skill development play a very vital role in upgrading the quality levels of employment. Therefore, a global system, under the umbrella of ILO, needs to be set up to find out the ways to help the developing countries in their efforts of skill development in the labour force.

In the Committee on Occupational safety and Health, it was mentioned that safety and health of the workers is a matter of great concern for the Government of India. Providing occupational safety and health to the unorganised sector at the workplace is a big challenge, which has to be met. The Government also expressed the belief that the ILO itself could play an important role in mobilising resources from the developed world to help the developing countries to transfer the workers from the informal to the formal economy and also by rendering technical assistance to complement the national efforts when requested by the country concerned. There was a strong need for the ILO to draw up a coherent plan of action in the area of occupational safety and health related activities. The Government endorsed the suggestion for a regular review of international collaboration activities in the area of occupational safety and health, as this would help the ILO to understand specific problems relating to occupational safety and health in the member countries and also the member countries would have appreciation of the specific measures taken by the others.

In the Committee on Seafares, the Government member of India stated that since Convention No. 108 was more than 40 years old it was time to review it.

Statement-II

The Committee on Human Resources Training and Development adopted a Resolution that an item entitled "Human resources ordinary session for second discussion with a view to the adoption of a Recommendation.

The Committee on Employment Relationship concluded that adoption of a Recommendation on the subject would be an appropriate response. This Recommendation should focus on disguised employment relationships and on the need for mechanisms to ensure that persons with an employment relationship have access to the protection they are due at the national level. The Committee adopted the Resolution that the Governing Body give due consideration to the conclusions adopted by the Committee in planning future action on the employment relationship and request the Director-General to take them into account both when implementing the Programme and Budget for the 2004-05 biennium and allocating such other resources as may be available during the 2004-05 biennium.

In the conclusions adopted by the Committee on Occupational Safety and Health, an ILO action plan for

the promotion of safety and health at work was drawn. The Committee also adopted a Resolution that with a view to increasing the impact, coherence and relevance of ILO standards-related activities in the area of occupational safety and health (OSH), the Governing Body of the International Labour Office should give due consideration to these conclusions in planning future ILO standards related activities in the area of OSH, noting that the opportunity exists for placing an item relating to OSH on the agenda of the 93rd Session (2005) of the International Labour Conference if agreed by the Governing Body in November 2003; and should request the Director-General to give them priority when implementing the present and the 2004-05 programmes, when allocating such resources as may be available during the 2004-05 biennium and when preparing future strategic plans and programmes and budgets, in particular for the 2006-07 biennium.

A draft revised Convention was adopted by the Committee on Seafarers.

Bangalore International Airport

1153. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Ministry has imposed fresh conditions that the promoters of Bangalore greenfield international airport should face penalties if the facility is not commissioned within the stipulated time frame;

(b) if so, whether the consortium of promoters L&T, Zurich Airport and Siemens are demanding that the Government should pay the compensation in case if project is delayed due to policy or procedural wrangles; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to sort out the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) Draft Concession Agreement specific for Bangalore International Airport along with a model Concession Agreement is being formulated by Government of India (Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Law) in consultation with Government of Karnataka.

Shifting of Research Centre

1154. SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) is functioning at Vizhinjam, in Trivandrum, Kerala;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any request from public representatives regarding sanction of financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 2 crores for the developmental activities;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government had taken a decision to shift this centre from Vizhinjam; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Several public representatives including Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Thiruvananthapuram have addressed letters in this regard not to shift or close Vizhinjam Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) and have requested for allocation of Rs. 2 crores for development of this centre during X Plan. The Centre is working on some aspects of marine fisheries and culture and the activities at different centres of the CMFRI are proposed to be integrated.

Restructuring Plans of SAIL

1155. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial and business restructuring plans of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been criticised by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India;

(b) if so, the details and the facts thereof;

(c) whether the SAIL proposes to review its decision and to take action on various points raised by CAG; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) In the CAG's report for the year ending March, 2002, certain observations have been made regarding slow progress in implementation of the approved business restructuring plan of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). Deficiencies in the disinvestment process and right sizing of manpower as well as unsatisfactory performance by the company are the main issues commented upon.

(c) and (d) The restructuring of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is an ongoing process. Pursuant to the approval of the Government for restructuring, the company has completed 10 tasks out of 18 identified tasks for implementation in the package. However, due to lack of reasonable offers as well as resistance from various quarters and the employees, there has been delay in some activities.

The implementation of the restructuring package of SAIL is reviewed periodically at various levels in the Government to ensure that the entire process is completed expeditiously.

Survey on Child Labour

1156. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI BHASKARRAO PATIL:
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the exact number of child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the survey conducted by voluntary organisations in this regard have been taken into account;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the proposals of the Government to implement laws prohibiting employment of children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Authentic information on child labour in the country is generated by the decennial census only. According to the 1991 census, the number of working children in India was 11.28 million. The figures of the 2001 census have not yet been published.

(e) Employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in 13 Occupations and 57 Processes listed in the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The Central and State Governments are responsible for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in their respective spheres. Employers found employing children in Occupations and Processes prohibited under the Act are prosecuted under the provisions of the Act.

[Translation]

Assistance from ILO to Eradicate Poverty

1157. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
DR. (SHRIMATI) CH. SUGUNA KUMARI:
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek the help of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to eradicate poverty for increasing the employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the draft of the poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes has been prepared and sent to the ILO for its consideration; and

(d) if so the response of ILO thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir. However, a suggestion was made for setting up an International Skill Development Fund, in the intervention made by the Union Labour Minister in the International Labour Conference, with a view to generate employment, during 91st session of International Labour Conference.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) Does not arise.
(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Housing Scheme for Fishermen

1158. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to grant administrative sanction to the Housing Scheme for fishermen under NFW Housing Scheme in the old pattern for the year 2001-02 and to release the matching contribution of Rs. 3,82,19,933/-to Kerala Government;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No proposal to grant administrative sanction to the Housing Scheme for fishermen under NFW housing Scheme in the old pattern for the year 2001-02 is pending with the Government at present. The Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen was revised in 2000-01 and cost of construction of a house enhanced from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 40,000. On receipt of proposals from Government of Kerala, Central assistance of

Rs. 700 lakh has been extended for construction of houses during the last three years (2000-2003).

Complaint against Deputy DGCA

1159. SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against Deputy DGCA recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the officer on the said complaint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. It is alleged in the complaints that the concerned Dy. DGCA delayed the approval for starting a flying training institute by M/s Yash Air Ltd. at Ujjain and subsequently at Shirpur by wrong interpretation of width of the runway required for operation of Cessna aircraft by trainee pilots at these airports.

(c) After preliminary investigation, the explanation of concerned officer has been sought which is awaited.

Production of Fodder

1160. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the amount released out of the total allocations made to states for production of fodder during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): The State-wise allocation of fund is not applicable in the scheme. The scheme is demand driven and the funds are released during last three years and the current year under the scheme-"Assistance to States for Fodder Development" as given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

*Funds released during last three years and current year under the scheme—
"Assistance to States for Fodder Development"*

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	50.85	—	—	—	50.85
Arunachal Pradesh	40.862	—	—	—	40.862
Himachal Pradesh	3.50	—	1.00	—	4.50
Karnataka	93.00	—	38.55	—	131.55

1	2	3	4	5	6
Gujarat	10.00	—	—	—	10.00
Sikkim	28.00	30.00	—	—	58.00
Nagaland	14.00	30.00	20.00	—	64.00
Rajasthan	59.78	—	—	—	59.78
Chhattisgarh	—	17.75	100.00	—	117.75
J&K	—	47.60	55.50	—	103.10
Tripura	—	12.80	—	—	12.80
Mizoram	—	19.60	30.00	—	49.60
Punjab	—	—	20.00	—	20.00
Uttaranchal	—	—	76.75	—	76.75
Total	299.992	157.75	341.80	—	799.542

[Translation]

Transfer Policy of Group C and D Categories

1161. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the transfer policy of group 'C' and 'D' employees under the subordinate departments of the Ministry particularly the Central Water Commission (CWC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that most of the employees working in the CWC and the subordinate departments of the ministry have been working at the same place for several years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, the Government have reviewed the transfer policy of Group 'C' and 'D' employees of CWC, an attached office of this Ministry, and CGWB, a subordinate office under this Ministry, from time to time and necessary amendments carried out in it.

(b) In CWC, common transfer policy for all cadres was framed in 1987. A separate transfer policy was framed for group 'C' and 'D' in September, 1989. In CGWB, transfer norms for Group 'C' and 'D' were revised in 2000.

(c) and (d) Subject to exigencies of public service and administrative requirement, transfers from one station to another are kept of the minimum extent possible. In CWC and CGWB Group 'C' and 'D' personnel are not normally transferred from one station to another except to meet the following contingencies:-

- (i) Where transfer becomes essential for the purpose of adjusting surplus staff, making up deficiencies or shifting of an office.
- (ii) On the request of employees on compassionate grounds.
- (iii) On the requests for mutual transfer.
- (iv) On promotion of an individual when the promotee cannot be adjusted at the same station.
- (v) For exigencies of service or administrative requirements.
- (vi) On completion of normal tenure by employee posted away from home town.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow, the 29th July, 2003.

11.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 29, 2003/Sravana 7, 1925 (Saka).

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Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
(Tenth Edition) and Printed by M/s. Jainco Art India, New Delhi.
