

1	2	3	4
16.	Bhavnagar	18249.380	932.000
17.	Amreli	15166.000	570.000
18.	Gandhinagar	742.610	0.000
19.	Dang	157.000	0.000
Total		292578.740	17901.000

[English]

Change in Foreign Policy

*310. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any change in the foreign policy of the Government after Pokhran Nuclear tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fresh measures taken/proposed to be taken to normalise relations with our neighbouring countries after the nuclear tests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In our statements in recent weeks, we have stressed that India is committed to fostering friendship and cooperation with all neighbouring countries. After the tests we have made significant proposals for confidence building and for peace and stability in the region and beyond, including the reiteration of our willingness to discuss a 'no-first-use agreement' bilaterally with Pakistan, as also with other countries, bilaterally or in a collective form. Recently, we addressed an invitation to an official delegation led by Foreign Secretary of Pakistan to visit New Delhi to resume the round of FS-level talks adjourned in New Delhi last September. A letter has also been addressed to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. We have also stated that with China, India seeks a relationship in which both sides are responsive to each other's concerns. The Bangladesh Prime Minister has visited India after the tests and discussions were held on all matters of

mutual interest. Government will continue to remain engaged in substantive dialogue with our neighbours to improve relations and to expand the scope of our interactions in a mutually advantageous manner.

[Translation]

National Policy on Agriculture

*311. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI ADITYANATH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union government propose to formulate a new national policy on agriculture immediately to increase the production in agriculture sector, and in order to solve the problems of the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) A comprehensive National Policy on Agriculture is in the final stages of drafting and is likely to be finalised shortly in consultation with the States.

The Policy will aim at the management and conservation of the natural-resource base through sustainable management of land and water resources. It will seek to promote environmentally non-degrading, technically sound, economically viable and socially acceptable improvement of natural resources to promote sustainable development of agriculture. The policy will focus particular attention of measures such as Land reforms to channelise the energies of small and marginal farmers.

The policy will, to this end, seek to achieve :

- (i) conservation of the natural-resource base through sustainable management of land and water resources and protection and conservation of bio-diversity.
- (ii) maintenance of food self-sufficiency.
- (iii) greater employment generation, higher household incomes and reduction of poverty through diversification of farming systems.
- (iv) Reduction of regional imbalances through greater emphasis on rainfed farming and developing areas of untapped potential;