

Issue of Licences to Food Processing Industries.

4114. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received applications for issue of licences for setting up of Food Processing Industries in the North Eastern States and Sikkim;

(b) if so, the number of such applications received during 1997-98 (upto May), State-wise;

(c) the total number of licences issued out of the applications received; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the clearance of the pending applications?

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

[Translation]

Fodder in Hilly Areas

4115. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether fodder meant for animals grown in plains cannot be grown in hilly areas due to geographical, environmental and climatic factor and also because hilly areas of high altitude remain snow covered for almost six months as a result of which vegetation gets dried;

(b) whether any specific research is being done for growing fodder in such areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct any study in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and steps being taken for easy availability of fodder in hilly areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Though common

types of cultivated fodders and grasses can be successfully grown in mid-hills (upto 5000 ft. above mean sea level), there are different fodder crops and their varieties specific to high hills.

(b) Research work on high yielding nutritive varieties of grasses and legumes for high altitude pastures has been taken up by State Agriculture Universities and by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research.

(c) As a result of research the following forage varieties have been found suitable.

Crop Varieties

Oats — JHO 810, JHO 821

Lucerne — Anand - 3

Tall fescue — Him-1

Berseem — JHB 89-4, BI-22

Pasture — JHB-89-4, BL-22

Pasture Species:

White clover — Donna, Ladino, Haifa, S-100 (Exotic)

Red Clover — Astra, Brita, Kenstar

Guinea grass — PGG-1, PGG-9

Setaria — Nandi, TSS-1

(d) The work in this direction is continuing for purpose of development further new forage crop varieties and pasture species.

(e) and (f) The Regional Research Station of the Indian Grasslands and Fodder Research Institute at Palampur is engaged in research on high altitude fodder crops and pasture species. A Regional Station for Forage Production and Demonstration at Srinagar under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India is also working on promotion of fodder programmes in hill areas.

[English]

Visa Restriction

4116. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dubai Government has imposed some restriction on issuing new visiting Visas for Keralites;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

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

(a) No, Sir. Visit visas continues to be granted by the Dubai authorities on the same terms and conditions as before.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Examination of Supreme Court's Judgement in Hawala Case

4117. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recent Supreme Court Judgement in the Hawala Case;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take to ensure that CBI does not, in future, file cases which are rejected by the Court for lack of evidence so that no un-necessary mental agony is caused to the accused; and

(c) whether the Government propose to fix the responsibility on the CBI Officers for filing cases against political leaders, which are not substantiated by proper evidence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CBI is guided by the provisions of the Criminal procedure Code, 1973 while performing its statutory duties in the investigation/trial of any case being handled by it and, therefore, no further action is required to be taken by the Government in this regard.

(c) Investigations in the Hawala Case were monitored by the Supreme Court. Chargesheets against the accused were filed by the CBI, after completion of investigations, in the court of Special Judge, Delhi, which took cognisance and framed charges against a number of accused persons. The Delhi High Court, which considered a Revision Petition filed by one of the accused, also upheld the order of the Special Judge taking cognisance.

However, the Delhi High Court, in another Revision Petition filed against the charges, concluded that entries in diaries alone were not sufficient for the finding of guilt. The Supreme Court upheld this view point of the High Court. It is, however, worth mentioning that the High Court and the Supreme Court have not held anywhere that the CBI mis-conducted investigations or that there was malice on its part. In view of the above, the question of fixing responsibility on the CBI officers does not arise.

[Translation]

Power From Waste

4118. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incineration technique of generating energy from rubbish has been declared invalid at international and national level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the use of the technique produce fatal gas 'dioxin', leakage of which may lead to serious incidents;

(d) whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) the attitude of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) and (b) No. Sir.

The technique is already in practice in the United States, Europe and Japan, etc.

At the national level, the technique is not common, as the garbage generally contains low percentage of combustible material like paper, wood, etc. Which are picked up at source and not thrown as waste. The rubbish also contains high percentage of moisture making it generally unsuitable for incineration.