

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) Central Government is not contemplating to construct a dam over Ghaggar river near Chandigarh to store drinking water for neighbouring States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh. Government of Haryana is, however, formulating a multi-purpose scheme on Ghaggar river which shall also meet the drinking water requirements of Chandigarh, Panchkula and Ambala area. The detailed project report has not yet been submitted by Government of Haryana.

#### **Prospects in Food Processing Sector**

4181. SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set up any Committee to study the prospects in the food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Grant to D.M.s.**

4182. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given to the DMS during the last year by the Government and the manner in which the grant has been utilised by the DMS;

(b) whether the DMS milk is being sold in the black-market openly with connivance of the administration;

(c) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to stop this black-marketing and to fix its responsibility; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the scheme to provide milk at cheaper rates to the residents of the capital would be made successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) was given a budgetary support of Rs. 5847.60 lakhs during the financial year 1997-98. The budgetary support is utilised to bridge the gap between revenue receipts and expenditure which arises due to the difference in the cost of production and selling price of milk.

(b) to (d) DMS is selling milk at much lower prices than that of other suppliers. Consequently, there is heavy demand on the milk booths of DMS. Complaints regarding black-marketing are attended to. If the complaints are found true, necessary action including cancellation of agencies of Senior Depot/Depot Agent/Concessionaire etc is taken. Consumers Advisory Committee and Residents Welfare Associations are also being increasingly associated to aid in making milk distribution smooth and fair.

#### **Agriculture Based Industries**

4183. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey in regard to the agriculture based food processing industries in rural areas of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the agriculture based food processing industries which are being run successfully; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote agriculture based food processing industries in rural areas?

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

(b) As food processing industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors, information regarding the number of food processing units including those being run successfully State-wise is not maintained Centrally.

(c) Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of very soft loan and grant is provided to cooperatives, Non-

Governmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings and private sector industries etc. For setting up of food processing units any where in the country including rural areas.

Besides, the Ministry has also been operating since 1992-93, a scheme for setting up Food processing and Training Centres (FPTCs) with strong focus on the rural areas.

[English]

#### **Arms Race in South Asia**

4184. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five nuclear power meeting in Geneva, in first week of June, 1998 agreed on a plan of "Quick Action" to head off an arms race in South Asia, laying down ways, the United States could help ease tension in the region;

(b) if so, the details of Quick Action Plan and the role assigned to the US therein to ease tension; and

(c) the Government's reaction and response thereto?

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

(a) and (b) The Foreign Ministers of Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, P-5, in their meeting in Geneva, June 4, 1998 adopted a Joint Communiqué which "condemned" the tests carried out by India and Pakistan, expressed their "deep concern about the danger to peace and stability in the region", and "pledged to cooperate closely" in order to prevent an arms race in the sub-continent, "bolster the non-proliferation regime and to encourage reconciliation and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan". They called upon India and Pakistan to adhere to the CTBT immediately and unconditionally and said that their goal continues to be adherence by all countries to the NPT as it stands, without any modification. They said that they would "actively encourage" India and Pakistan "to find mutually acceptable solutions, through direct dialogue that address the root causes of tension, including Kashmir and to try to build confidence rather than seek confrontation".

(c) The Government issued a statement pointing out that enjoys a consistent record as a responsible member of the international community and a pioneer and leading

participant in the movement towards global nuclear disarmament. India has made consistent efforts aimed towards building confidence and promoting peace and stability in our region. In the wake of the nuclear tests, Government have also taken various initiatives with a view to addressing concerns expressed subsequent to the tests. India expects a positive response to the various initiatives it has announced so that peace and stability are maintained in the sub-continent. The statement also underlined that one of the most serious threats to our security has arisen because of the non-observance of the obligations that the Permanent five have undertaken under the NPT.

[Translation]

#### **Support Price**

4185. SHRI GAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices pays attention towards the support price proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the price of soyabean and gram are likely to be announced as per the price proposed by the State during the next few years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), prior to submitting their reports, consult the State Governments and various other public institutions and concerned interests. The CACP visit different States for eliciting the views of the State Governments and various other interests including farmers, trade and industry and also invite the representatives of various organisations and State Governments for detailed discussions with the Commission in New Delhi.

While formulating their recommendations, the CACP consider the following important factors:—

- (1) Cost of Production.
- (2) Changes in input prices.
- (3) Input/Output price parity.