

launched various schemes to give incentives to the fruits and vegetable growers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the procedure being adopted to clear the projects of State Governments under these schemes;

(d) whether due to long procedure there is an inordinate delay in sanctioning the projects;

(e) if so, whether the Maharashtra Government has requested the Union Government to delegate the sanctioning power to the State Government;

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

(g) the details of the support being given by National Horticulture Board and APEDA to the Governments of Maharashtra and Goa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are at Annexure.

(c) The proposals of the State Governments as well as other beneficiaries, after examination in the respective organisations are sanctioned by the Executive Director/Managing Committee in respect of NHB and the Chairman/Director/Executive Committee as the case may be in respect of APEDA.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) does not arise.

(g) Goa and Maharashtra along with other States avail of assistance provided under the various schemes listed in the Statement.

Statement

b(i) Schemes of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

1. Schemes for feasibility Studies, Surveys, Consultancy and Database upgradation.

2. Scheme for assistance to promote quality and quality control.

3. Scheme for packaging development.

4. Schemes for generating relevant research and development by APEDA through research institutions for common benefit of trade and industry.

5. Scheme for development of infrastructure.

6. Scheme for organisation building and HRD.

b(ii) Schemes of National Horticulture Board (NHB)

1. Integrated Project on Management of Post Harvest Infrastructure of Horticultural Crops.

2. Scheme for Development of Marketing of horticultural Produce through participation in soft loan.

3. Introduction of New technologies and concepts in Horticulture.

4. Market Information Service Scheme for Horticultural Produce.

5. Establishment of Nutritional Garden in rural Areas.

6. Grant of Financial Assistance to Professional organisations for the Development of Horticulture.

7. Transfer of Technology through Training and visit of Horticulture Growers.

8. Techno Economic Feasibility Studies/Surveys on various Aspects of Horticulture.

SSC Exams

4240. SHRI VAIKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission is conducting examinations on Zonal basis;

(b) whether the cut of marks vary from Zone to Zone in such examinations;

(c) whether the cut off marks of Southern Zone is generally higher than other Zones; and

(d) whether the Government propose to prepare the combined merit list for all India in order to select meritorious candidates who are left out in the zones that have higher cut off percentage?

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) to (d) SSC was conducting examinations in respect of certain posts on Zonal basis up to 1996. Consequent upon judgement delivered by Supreme Court in CA No. 4190/95-Radhey Shyam and others VS Union of India that selection has to be made on the basis of All India merit, the Commission has stopped recruitment on zonal basis.

[Translation]

Release of Fund Under MPLADS

4241. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the actual funds released during 1997-98 under the MPLADS particularly to Nasik, Khed, Pune and Dhuley constituencies;

(b) the fate of the rest of the funds;

(c) whether the amount under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme for 1998-99 has been released to Members of Lok Sabha;

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

(e) whether the amount of the said fund has not been released to some Members of Parliament for want of utilization certificate of fund issued by the District Magistrates concerned;

(f) if so, whether the Government have directed the District Magistrates concerned to complete the utilization certificate of previous fund and other formalities; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

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) An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore each to Nasik and Dhuley constituencies and Rs. 50.00 lakh each to Khed and Pune constituencies have been released for 1997-98. The remaining funds to Khed and Pune constituencies will be released on receipt of expenditure statement from the concerned District Magistrate (DMs) showing an unanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50.00 lakhs.

(c) to (g) The first instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs each has been released in respect of 113 Lok Sabha MPs upto 6.7.1998. A statement showing State-wise release of funds is attached. The funds to remaining MPs could not be released as the expenditure statement showing an unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakh has not been received for them. All the District Magistrates (DMs) have been requested to furnish the latest expenditure return.

Statement

Summary of Funds Released Under Mplads for 1998-99 as on 06/07/1998

Sl.No.	State Name	Lok Sabha
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	0
4.	Bihar	9
5.	Goa	0