

1	2	3
2. Grants under Provision (i) to Article 275 (1) of the Constitution	75.00	75.00
3. Grant-in-aid to State Tribal Development Co-operative Corporations for MFP Operations	8.23	8.23
4. Investment in TRIFED	23.00	23.00
5. Price Support to TRIFED	1.00	1.00
Minorities		
1. National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation.	-	-

Closure of Sugar Mills in U.P.*[English]*

4059. SHRI ADITYANATH :
SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the impact of this closure on the sugarcane farmers of the State;

(c) whether any assessment has been made in this regard;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated to save those mills from closure;

(e) the total number of farmers as well as sugarcane area likely to be affected as a result thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the sugar production in the country is likely to be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (f) There is no information about impending closure of sugar mills in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. It may, however, be stated that the following two sugar mills have not been working due to various reasons.

Sl. No.	Name of Sugar mill	Not operated since
1.	M/s Swadeshi Mining & Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Anandnagar Distt., Maharajganj.	1994-95
2.	Cawnpore Sugar Works Ltd., Gauribazar, Distt. Deoria.	1996-97

School for Handicapped Children

4060. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up schools for handicapped children in the various States especially in District Barpeta (Assam);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Under the Scheme for establishment of Special School for handicapped children, the grant-in-aid is released to the Non-Governmental Organisations on merits provided the application is forwarded through the concerned State Government/ Union Territory Administration with their recommendations. However, the State Government of Assam has not yet sent any proposal in respect of any NGO for such a School in District Barpeta.

Oil Exploration Abroad

4061. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI S.S. OWAIISI :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to allow Indian oil companies to explore abroad to augment the oil resources of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the countries identified for exploration so far;
- (d) the time by which such exploration activities are likely to be taken place in these countries; and
- (e) the name of public sector and other oil companies permitted to explore abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. ONGC Videsh Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of ONGC, is pursuing for oil exploration/production projects in the following countries:

- (i) Vietnam
- (ii) Kazakhstan
- (iii) Azerbaijan
- (iv) Russia
- (v) Iraq

Whereas concessions in Vietnam and Kazakhstan have already been granted in favour of ONGC Videsh Ltd., in the remaining countries efforts to acquire concessions for exploration/production projects are in progress.

In addition, Oil India Ltd. is also pursuing acquiring participating interest in an exploration project in Oman.

The commencement of exploration activities in Azerbaijan, Russia, Iraq and Oman would depend on the outcome of the efforts that are in progress.

Programme for Eradication of Various Diseases

4062. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHAH REDDY :
 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
 SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :
 SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:
 DR. SAROJA V. :
 SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK :
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
 SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH :
 SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :
 SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :
 SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
 SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL :
 SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :
 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
 SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
 SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
 SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth of AIDS, TB, Malaria, Leprosy, Cancer, Polio and other communicable diseases is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the percentage of its growth at present, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons reported suffering/died from these diseases separately during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether any centrally sponsored programme to eradicate these diseases is being implemented in the country;

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

(f) the persons benefited under each programme so far during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(g) the funds allocated for these programmes separately during the said period, State-wise;

(h) whether the Government are still determined to eradicate these diseases by 2000 AD as planned;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) if not, the reasons therefor and the present state of affairs in various States; and

(k) the steps taken by the Government to combat this alarming situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (k) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Road Transport Charges for Lifting of Levy Sugar

4063. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received representations from the Government of Gujarat for allowing allowance on actual road transportation charges in respect of lifting of levy sugar under Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund Scheme;

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

(c) whether similar representations have been received from the other States; and

(d) if so, the time by which this allowance is likely to be implemented?