

(c) whether the Union government propose to provide more funds to the State Government for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated to the State for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The State Government of Orissa have reported that the incidence of waterlogging has increased with the development of irrigation potential in the State.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the Government to remedy the waterlogging problem;

A part of the command of Mahanadi has been covered under Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project which has been sanctioned during the VIII Plan. The activities under the project include rehabilitation and modernisation of existing projects, improving system deficiencies by on farm development works, lining of canals, repairs of off take points, cross regulators, etc. These activities result in improved water management and thus check the problem of waterlogging.

Under Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme which is in operation in Orissa covering 10 projects, activities like construction of field channels and field drains, land leveling and shaping, enforcement of warabandi, promotion of conjunctive use of surface and ground water, introduction of suitable cropping pattern, controlled irrigation at the farm level help in checking waterlogging. The propagate scientific techniques of irrigation among farmers to check waterlogging, adaptive trails, demonstrations and training have also been taken up under the Programme. Further, reclamation of waterlogged areas under irrigation commands has been included under the Programme with effect from 1.4.1996 for which Central assistance to the extent of 50% is admissible.

(c) to (e) Funds to the States are provided by the Central Government as per the financing pattern under the programme on the basis of the extent of work done by the State Government. Orissa Government has sent six schemes with a total area of 409.54 ha to the Ministry of Water Resources for reclamation of waterlogged areas which have already been cleared in principle. However, the State Government have reported to have made the

following allocation under the State Sector for tackling such problems areas during the last three years.

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1995-96 | Rs. 175.62 lakh |
| 1996-97 | Rs. 606.00 lakh |
| 1997-98 | Rs. 460.00 lakh |
| Total | Rs. 1241.62 lakh |

Indian Food Market

32106. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the German agricultural sector and agri-tool makers are eyeing on the large Indian food market in which they see great potential for increasing bilateral trade;

(b) if so, whether agricultural delegation from Germany visited India during March, 1998;

(c) if so, the details of the main discussions held;

(d) whether any concrete agreement has been signed between India and Germany; and

(e) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) A delegation from Germany led by Dr. Franz-Josef Felter, State Secretary in German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry visited India from 23rd to 28th March, 1998. The emphasis of the visit was on the possibilities of collaboration in the areas of agriculture and agro-industries. During the visit, the delegation held meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture and other organisations including the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA).

During the meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture, both the sides underlined the positive developments in bilateral economic relations between the two countries and their interest in further intensification of cooperation. It was also proposed to develop a general Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between the two countries in the field of agriculture namely, export of grapes, pomegranates, cut flowers, reduction of post-harvest losses, fisheries, agricultural engineering, animal sciences, cooperatives etc. It was also agreed to explore the possibility of creating a separate Indo-German Working Group for cooperation in the field of agriculture within the

framework of the Indo-German Joint Commission on Industrial and Economic Cooperation. During the meeting with APEDA, India's capabilities in the Agro Sector, items already exported from India to Germany and the future prospects for export of Agricultural and Food Products from India to Germany were highlighted.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The question does not arise.

Western Ghat Development Scheme

3207. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) whether Quepem taluka is also included in the Scheme?

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 & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Three talukas viz. Satari of North Goa district and Sanguem and Canacona of South Goa district are included in the Western Ghats Development Programme of the State.

(c) No, Sir.

Wastage due to Storage of Food Processing Industries

3208. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the horticultural production get wasted due to inadequate food processing storage and infrastructural facilities; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Schemes provides financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant to Cooperatives, Non-Governmental Organisations, Public Sector Undertakings, Private industries, Research Institutions etc. for creation of infrastructural facilities, cold storages, setting up of food parks, setting up/expansion/modernisation of food

processing industries, and Research and Development projects etc. Such activities would *inter alia* result in reduction of post harvest losses of horticultural production.

Pakistan's Nuclear Weapon Programme

3209. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US intelligence agencies have tracked a Chinese ship carrying weapons materials and electronic items destined for Pakistan's major nuclear weapons laboratory; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Reports in the media regarding the tracking of a Chinese ship carrying weapons, missile systems and their components and electronic systems to Pakistan are based on news item appearing in the Washington Times (USA) in its issue dated June 4, 1998. The materials are believed to include special metals and electronic equipment used in the production of Pakistan's antitank missile, "Bakhtar Shikan"

(b) The acquisition of missiles and related technologies as well as weapons systems by Pakistan is being continuously monitored and assessed by Government. These latest reports regarding supplies by China of weapons and missile components to Pakistan come as no surprise. Government have frequently made known its concern in various fora over such transfers which contribute adversely to the regional security environment. Our concerns regarding China's assistance to Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes have also been conveyed to the Chinese side at the highest level. India has underlined to China the importance of paying adequate attention to each other's security concerns on vital issues affecting each other's security and territorial integrity.

No First Use N-Weapons

3210. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention was drawn to the statement of the Chinese President Jiang Zemin on the eve of P-5 Foreign Minister's meet in Geneva on June 4, 1998 imputing that India was targetting China in pursuing its Nuclear Programme;

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto by way of dispelling the Chinese apprehensions; and