

principle by the Government in April 1995 could not be implemented for want of resources. Government has since sanctioned the proposal for revival of the Namrup units of HFC. The proposals in respect of the other units of HFC and FCI are being reformulated having regard to the considerations of unit-wise viability and the feasibility of tying up the fresh funds required.

[Translation]

Bogus Insurance

2583. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cases of bogus insurance are taking place in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of cases came to light during the last three years; and
- (c) the number of officers held responsible for such negligence and the punishment awarded to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The General Insurance Corporation of India, Mumbai has reported that no bogus insurance policies are issued by the subsidiary companies. However, some cases of bogus insurance policies issued unauthorisedly by private persons/organisations have come to the notice. The total number of such cases during the last three years was 9. These bogus insurances were issued by outside parties and the company officials were not involved. These cases were reported to police/CBI for investigations and appropriate action.

Life Insurance Corporation of India has reported that the total number of cases of bogus business during the last three years was 123. The number of company officials involved was 166. Appropriate administrative action was taken against these officials as per the rules including examination from vigilance angle.

[English]

Pichavaram Tourist Spot, T.N.

2584. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to bring Pichavaram in Cudalooore district of Tamilnadu on the National Tourist Map in view of its tourist importance and potentiality; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allocate necessary funds during the current financial year to develop Pichavaram?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) Pichavaram is already a known tourist centre in Tamil Nadu. However, the identification and development of any particular centre is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Union Ministry of Tourism provides assistance on the basis of specific tourism project proposals received from the State Govts. No proposal has been received from the State Government for assistance to develop Pichavaram.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

2585. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any fool proof voluntary retirement scheme and compensation policy has been worked out in respect of PSUs to be closed down under the disinvestment programme;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the number of PSUs employees so far relieved under various disinvestment scheme since 1991?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) A Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of Public Sector Enterprises was framed by DPE in 1988. Extension and enlargement of the scheme with many attractive benefits has been announced in the budget speech for 1998-99.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

National Sericulture Project

2586. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the States alongwith Maharashtra selected for the National Sericulture Project and the details of the work done under this project;
- (b) the amount of financial aid received for the above Project from the World Bank and Swiss Development Corporation so far; and
- (c) the time by which this project is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) The National Sericulture Project was implemented in 5 traditional states viz. Karnataka, Andhra