

(a) the number of Indians released from the jails in various Gulf countries due to the efforts made by Indian Government during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) the number of Indians still remaining in the jail in Gulf countries for alleged offence; and

(c) the action taken for the release of the remaining Indians in various jails?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) A total of 35,220 Indians, during the last three years, were released from jails in various Gulf countries *inter-alia* due to the efforts made by the Indian Government. Country-wise details of Indians released are as follows:—

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. United Arab Emirates | 33483 |
| 2. Bahrain | — |
| 3. Iraq | 7 |
| 4. Kuwait | 1103 |
| 5. Oman | 22 |
| 6. Qatar | 263 |
| 7. Saudi Arabia | 334 |
| 8. Yemen | 8 |
| Total | 35220 |

2. 2605 Indians still remain in jails in the Gulf countries.

3. On receipt of information about the detention of an Indian national, our diplomatic Missions/ Posts abroad immediately seek consular access. The Consular Officer visits the detainees and ascertains the reasons of arrest/ detention. Where necessary, the Missions take up the matter at higher levels of the receiving State for speedy trial, review/remission of sentence. In some in cases, legal help and the facility of translators/interpreters is also provided.

National Water Authority

*107. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Water Authority with a statutory role for facilitating the establishment of a National Water Grid;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for proper utilisation of water resources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of India has set up National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 to carry out studies on diversion of water from surplus basin to deficit areas by interlinking major rivers. NWDA have completed prefeasibility studies of identified links. Five feasibility reports are also completed.

World Bank Assistance for Milk Products

*108. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek World Bank assistance for raising the production of milk and milk products in the country to bridge the gap between demand and supply;

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

(c) whether the Government plans to make stringent laws for private dairy industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) No, Sir.