

*[English]***Milk Quota for Disabled**

1068. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme allocates any quota for milk to the disabled persons;

(b) if so, the number of disabled who have applied for and the number out of them allotted this quota;

(c) the reasons for not allotting quota to the remaining applicants; and

(d) the time by which they are likely to be allotted quota?

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

(a) Delhi Milk Scheme does not allocate any quota for milk to the disabled persons. However, there is scheme under which home delivery agents are authorised to draw 20 litres of milk per head for supply at the customers' doorstep. Though the delivery of milk at home is continuing, new agents are not being engaged for the last two years. Any disabled person can also apply to become a home delivery agent.

(b) to (d) 62 disabled persons have applied for issue of home delivery card during the last two years but none has been issued as the issue of new card under home delivery scheme has been under suspension for the last two years. No decision has been taken regarding the opening of scheme for the issue of home delivery card.

Talks with Nepal

1069. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government took up the issue of managing the open border with the King of Nepal during his recent visit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The visit of the King of Nepal was essentially a ceremonial event as he was invited as Chief Guest for the Republic Day celebrations. Nevertheless, the visit did provide occasion for an overview of bilateral relations and exchange of views on matters of mutual interest, including issues of concern to both sides relating to the management of the open Indo-Nepal border. Shared concern on this matter

was also evident from the determination expressed by both sides to take urgent necessary steps to control misuse of the open border between the two countries.

*[Translation]***Watershed Development Scheme**

1070. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work has been started under National Watershed Development Scheme in the rainfed area of Bihar during the Eighth Five Year Plan particularly in Jahanabad;

(b) whether the desired target has not been achieved under the said project; and

(c) if so, the details of target set and achieved during the said period?

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

(a) Yes, Sir, but no watershed in Jahanabad district could be taken up for development as none of the blocks qualified for taking up the works as per approved guidelines.

(b) and (c) An area of 23189 ha. has been developed against the target of 101485 ha. during the VIII Plan.

*[English]***Fruits and Vegetables**

1071. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a Corporation/Board which can provide loans to the fruits and vegetables producer in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Corporation/Board is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE