

(b) New Schemes are taken up by the States to increase the irrigation potential.

[English]

Setting up of Electronic and Software Industry

2227. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some electronic and software units in Orissa in collaboration with some American Companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its location in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Spices

2228. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested to the Union Government to provide financial assistance for setting up of Technology Mission for the increase in production of spices in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) No request has been received from Government of Karnataka to provide financial assistance for setting up of Technology Mission for the increase in production of spices in the State. However, Government of India is already implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices in Karnataka with 100% Central assistance. The important spices being supported under the programme in Karnataka are: Black Pepper, Ginger, Turmeric, Chilies, Coriander and Tree Spices (Clove, Nutmeg and Cinnamon). Under this Scheme, an amount of Rs. 285 lakhs was released to Government of Karnataka during 1997-98. Besides, Rs. 3.38 lakhs was released to University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwar for production of foundation seed and nucleus planting material etc. of various spices. The scheme is proposed to be continued during 1998-99 as well.

Sanctions against India

2229. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
DR. SANJAY SINH :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether economic sanctions have been imposed by several countries for conducting nuclear tests at Pokhran in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of sanctions imposed by individual nation;

(c) the countries who have supported, criticised and remained neutral after the nuclear tests;

(d) whether Prime Minister has written letters to heads of various Government, head of G-8, G-15, UN bodies etc., projecting the India's view on nuclear tests;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the manner in which India propose to meet the sanctions; and

(g) the change likely in foreign policy after the nuclear tests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Several countries have announced economic measures against India after the nuclear tests at Pokhran.

(b) Full details of the economic measures applied by individual countries are not available and are still coming in.

(c) Several countries have expressed understanding of the rationale behind India's nuclear tests. Many countries have refrained from issuing official statements. A number of countries, particularly in Europe and Latin America, apart from China, have been critical of the tests.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister has written letters to leaders of various governments explaining the security

concerns underlying the decision to authorise these tests. Government has also conveyed its disappointment to the countries which have imposed sanctions, as it reflects an inadequate appreciation of India's legitimate security concerns.

(f) We are assessing the possible impact of the sanctions and appropriate steps are being taken by Government to deal with the situation and safeguard India's interests.

(g) There is no change in India's foreign policy. Government have reiterated their commitment to nuclear disarmament and intends to continue actively to promote early progress towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

[Translation]

Agriculture Development Works

2230. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have analysed the reasons for the delay in implementation of agriculture development schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure speedy implementation of the agricultural schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) No delay in the implementation of major agricultural development scheme has been reported to the Government of India.

(c) The implementation of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes is carefully monitored by Government of India through field visits, periodical progress reports and discussion with State officers at the bi-annual National Conferences/Zonal Conferences, Area Officer meetings, etc.

[English]

Institute of Fisheries

2231. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up National Institute of Fisheries and Engineering Training in some States;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up such Institute in other States also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The Government have set up the Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET) with its headquarters at Kochi (Kerala) and units at Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). The Government have no plans to set up such Institutes in other States.

GDP Growth Rate

2232. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided to revise its GDP growth target of 7 per cent per annum;

(b) if so, whether according to the official estimate the economy will grow only 5 per cent in 1997-98;

(c) whether Planning Commission propose to review its target;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the extent to which the Planning Commission is likely to achieve the growth rate during the 1997-98?

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 AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) The draft Ninth Five Year Plan prepared at the internal meeting of Planning Commission has set GDP growth rate at 7 per cent per year for the period 1997-2002.

According to the Advance estimate of the Central Statistical Organisation, the economic growth measured by GDP at factor cost in 1997-98 is 5 per cent.

The plan is yet to be considered by the National Development Council. The Government has decided to review this draft so as to suitably reflect the altered priorities, as enunciated in the National Agenda for Governance. Detailed action plans are already under preparation which will, upon finalisation, be integrated with the existing draft. This revised document will then be submitted, through due process, for consideration and approval of the National Development Council.

(e) The Advance Estimate is a projected value. The actuals at the earliest is known through Quick Estimate made by the Central Statistical Organisation.

Modernisation of Food Processing Industries

2233. SHRI S.S. OWAI SI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether food processing mechanism needs modernisation in the country;