

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1155. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to restructure the pattern of Central assistance to States for Centrally sponsored schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for the changes made?

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.

National Production Strategy

1156. SHRI F.S. GADHAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn National Production Strategy for vegetable crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures suggested by the Union Government for promotion of vegetable export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):
(a) to (c) Government of India have drawn the following Central Sector Schemes for augmenting production of vegetable crops:—

(i) Integrated Development of Vegetables including Root & Tuber Crops with an outlay of Rs. 75.00 crores.

(ii) Integrated Development of Onion Potato with an outlay of Rs. 49.48 crore. Both the schemes envisage to boost the production by providing improved hybrid seeds/quality planting material, laying out demonstration plots, providing training facilities, farm equipments & implements and on-farm cold storage facilities to the vegetable growers of the country.

(d) The Government of India, through Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority

(APEDA) has proposed to promote vegetable export by implementing following schemes/programmes:

(i) Integrated Programme for Pre and Post Harvest Management.

(ii) Preparation of Manuals.

(iii) Promotion of Pack House Concept.

(iv) Vapour Heat Treatment Experiment.

(v) Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Experiments for Transportation.

(vi) Infrastructure facilities.

Cycles of Onion Crops

1157. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production cycles of onion crops have caused wide fluctuations in onion prices;

(b) whether there is a proposal to start Future's Exchange in onion in order to reduce the fluctuation; and

(c) if so, the time frame for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):
(a) The wide fluctuations in onion prices were caused by various factors including low production due to adverse weather conditions during 1997-98.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to start a Future' Exchange in onion.

Relations with Japan

1158. SHRI VAIKO:
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has been the India's largest bilateral donor since 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of proposal supported and total aid provided during 1996, 1997 and 1998;