

study visits of Indian scientists to Vietnam; Hybrid Cotton Production Technology, Hybrid Rice Production Technology, Micropropagation in Sugarcane, Water Management Studies under Rice Based Cropping System, Goat Production, Dairy Production/Management, Swine Management and Diseases, Post Harvest and Farm Mechanisation and Fruits and Vegetable Production. The following items have been specified for study visits/training of Vietnamese Scientists in India; Post Graduate Training Programme in Agriculture/Animal Science, Embryo Transfer in Cattle, Goats and Buffaloes, Maize Production Technology, Hybrid Cotton Production, Hybrid Rice Seed Production, Micropropagation of Sugarcane, Fruits/Vegetable Research, Goat Production and Farming System.

The Work Plan provides for technical cooperation between the two countries for Collaboration/Joint Research Programme in the following areas:

1. Development and Testing of hybrid rice under different Agro-eco-system.
2. Development and Testing of coarse cereals under hill and mountain eco system.
3. Evaluation of hybrid cotton/cotton varieties.
4. Studies on the feasibility of goat management for meat production.
5. Exploratory studies on semen processing, embryo transfer etc. in goats, cattle and buffaloes.
6. Studies on fruits and vegetable production.

The Work Plan also provides for the following exchange of Germ plasms and Literature;

*From Vietnam to India*

- Exchange of germplasm of rice, cotton, sugarcane, maize and coarse cereals.
- Exchange of materials of fruits and vegetables, sweet potato, cassava, orange, citrus, lemon, coconut, dioscorea.
- Goats.

*From India to Vietnam*

- Hybrid cotton, coarsecereals, maize, vegetables, mango, manelria, papaya, pineapple, jackfruit, tomato, egg plant, chilli etc.

**Performance of KONEX Project of ECL**

1603. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the KONEX Project at Satgram of Raniganj in West Bengal was undertaken by ECL in an agreement with Poland for completion in 1993;

(b) if so, whether the Project could not reach the targeted production even after investment of Rs. 125 crores;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether 72 chalk shields valued at Rs. 10 lakhs each are now wasted being exposed to sun and rains;

(e) whether the Trapler Car Shed built up at an expense of Rs. 80 lakhs remains unused; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government against ECL for such wastage of public money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (d) The Satgram Project of ECL has not been executed in agreement with Poland. However a Polish company viz M/s. Overseas Mine Construction Company (KOPEX, Polish Public Enterprise) was awarded a contract to sink two shafts and related work at Satgram through a global tender. It has been reported by Coal India Limited that the project could not achieve its production target even after investing Rs. 137.04 crores upto November'98. The main reason for this is agitation by contract workers engaged by KOPEX for employment in ECL and non-acquisition of land for mining. This issue was brought to the notice to State Government of West Bengal but the problem is yet to be resolved. The land owners are demanding benefits beyond the prescribed norms of CIL. The dewatering work of the upper seam is kept under suspension due to the villagers' resistance. As a result of this the longwall panel after development could not be equipped with longwall equipment and has been kept on the surface.

(e) It has been stated by Coal India Ltd. that the Creepar Carcircuit is not in use at present due to the above reasons and will be used as soon as the mine is completely equipped after the land problem is solved.

(f) The slippage in the commissioning of this project is not on account of any lapse on the part of ECL's

management but rather due to protracted agitation by contractor's labour and non-cooperation by villagers. All efforts are being made by the Government and ECL to resolve these problems and commission the project.

#### Production and Import of Cotton Bales

1604. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cotton bales imported during the last three years;
- (b) the total production of cotton in the country during the same period;
- (c) whether the production of cotton was low during the above period;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of cotton growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) and (b) The total number of cotton bales imported and the total production of cotton in the country during the last three years are as under:

	Production (in lakh bales of 170 kg each)	Import
1995-96	169.20	0.50
1996-97	177.90	0.30
1997-98*	158.00	4.00

\*As estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board in its meeting held on 18.2.1999.

(c) and (d) The fall in production during the year 1997-98 was due to heavy intermittent rain, pest attack of American Bollworm and attack of leaf curl virus.

(e) To protect the interest of cotton growers in the country apart from announcing Minimum Support Prices (MSP), a Centrally sponsored scheme viz. Intensive Cotton Development Programme is being implemented in

11 major cotton growing States. The salient features of the scheme *inter alia* include transfer of technology to farmers, adoption of integrated pest management approach, popularising new varieties, enhancing area under irrigation through water saving devices, production of breeder seeds and distribution of certified seeds. Besides, Government has mooted to launch a Technology Mission on Cotton Development with objectives of research, dissemination of technology to farmers, improvement in marketing infrastructure and modernisation of ginning and pressing factories.

#### Complaints received by NSE from Investors

1605. SHRI VIJAY TIPE :  
SHRI MADAN PATIL :  
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :  
SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO PATIL :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Stock Exchange (NSE) has received complaints against some companies from the investors;
- (b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last year and current year, indicating the nature of complaints; and
- (c) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. (NSE) received 578 complaints during April 1997—March 1998 and 494 complaints during April 1998—February 1999. The complaints relate to non-receipt of certificates after transfer/on allotment/on conversion of debentures, non-receipt of dividend interest, redemption value, erroneous transfer of shares, change in registered office etc.

(c) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) continuously monitors the performance of the NSE in redressal of investor grievances.

#### Export of Wheat Products to Maldives

1606. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: