

Projects Policy of Government of India stipulates that the beneficiary States would have to privatise distribution in the cities having a population of more than one million.

(c) Efforts are being made to set up the Power Trading Corporation at the earliest.

Wreckage of Ships in Coastal Waters

1177. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA :

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Coastal waters are graveyards for old vessels" appearing in the 'Asian Age' dated September 7, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check this growing trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item under question refers to the absence of effective maritime legislation to check entry of un-seaworthy ships leading to their alleged deliberate sinking by the owners to claim insurance money.

(c) It cannot be said that the coastal waters and ports in India have become graveyards for old ships.

(d) While action to fix responsibility on owners of sunken vessels in the port limits is taken under the Major Port Trusts Act which expressly provides that the responsibility of removal of the wreck rests on the owners of the ship, responsibility of removal of wreck occurring outside port limits but in India's territorial waters, has not been expressly imposed on the ship owners under the existing provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act.

Action has already been initiated to amend the relevant provisions of the Act.

Standard of Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1178. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the standard of education in Kendriya Vidyalayas has deteriorated;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the education standard of Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The pass percentage of Class X and XII of Kendriya Vidyalayas has been consistently higher than the average pass percentage of Central Board of Secondary Education as will be clear from the given table :

Year	Class-X		Class-XII	
	KVS	CBSE	KVS	CBSE
1996	77%	62.24%	78.70%	72%
1997	79.11%	68.30%	83.31%	78.50%
1998	76.8%	63.2%	79.9%	72.6%

However, compared to 1997 result of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, a declining trend has been noted in 1998. The Central Board of Secondary Education results have also shown similar trend.

(c) The Sangathan has planned to improve standard of education through various measures like intensive monitoring of academic activities, filling vacancies by appointment of teachers on contractual basis, systematic in-service training of teachers and Principals and completion of syllabus in December followed by remedial teaching for weak students and revision for others.

[Translation]

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

1179. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL :

SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has been entrusted with the work of supplying wheat and rice for Mid-Day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the quantum of wheat and rice supplied under the scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the FCI has stopped the supply of wheat and rice under the above scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) During July to September 1998, the supply of foodgrains by FCI had been temporarily suspended in States/UTs due to problems relating to reconciliation of lifting figures and non-release of funds to FCI. Supply of foodgrains has been resumed from October, 1998 on payment of FCI's dues.

Statement

(in MTs)

S.No.	State/UTs	1995-96 Qty. Lifted	1996-97 Qty. Lifted	1997-98 Qty. Lifted
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52347.00	129164.00	188652.00
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	1098.00	-	489.00
3.	Assam	29648.00	17653.00	27801.00
4.	Bihar	28193.00	53926.00	76443.00
5.	Goa	66.20	101.00	1470.00
6.	Gujarat	22001.00	26929.00	24356.00
7.	Haryana	10334.00	33296.00	38622.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3151.00	8684.00	17098.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3232.00	5986.00	-
10.	Karnataka	50485.00	70766.00	135767.00
11.	Kerala	5127.00	7567.00	53795.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	78996.00	141549.00	161140.00
13.	Maharashtra	50903.00	100730.00	215278.00
14.	Manipur	1367.00	1430.00	5650.00
15.	Meghalaya	4396.00	4363.00	6218.00
16.	Mizoram	1917.00	2664.00	2900.00
17.	Nagaland	1460.00	3212.00	2608.00
18.	Orissa	25767.00	32886.00	77049.00
19.	Punjab	5502.00	6908.00	15416.00
20.	Rajasthan	54965.00	60130.00	92585.00
21.	Sikkim	1651.00	1145.00	1077.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	18737.00	26373.00	108225.00
23.	Tripura	8085.00	11082.00	11728.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	48390.00	285768.00	367483.00
25.	West Bengal	25193.00	70992.00	164028.00
26.	A & N Islands	106.00	66.00	-

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Chandigarh	69.00	357.00	145.00
28.	D & N Haveli	399.00	292.00	484.00
29.	Daman & Diu	142.00	211.00	265.00
30.	Delhi	2150.00	7540.00	12055.00
31.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
32.	Pondicherry	139.00	719.00	-
India		536016.00	1112489.00	1808827.00

[English]

Impact of Sanctions on Technologies

1180. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether following the sanctions crucial technologies in various fields are being denied to India; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to fill the technological gap created by the sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Even earlier many technologies and equipment were denied to India under various garbs like non-export of dual use technologies etc. Our institutions are geared to overcome the constraints through indigenous development and also by way of procurement from alternate sources.

Loans from International Agencies to NHAI

1181. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of loans and finances made available by international financial agencies of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) whether National Highways Authority of India is making use of such funds;

(c) whether modern and people-friendly designs for road development have not been adopted by NHAI; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to ensure that NHAI uses latest design for road development in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA

PRADHAN): (a) So far, no loan has been made available by international financial agencies to National Highways Authority of India. However, National Highways Authority of India is the executing agency for the following loans made available by international financial agencies to Government of India.

Name of International Financial Agency	Amount of loan
World Bank	US \$ 10 Million
Asian Development Bank	US \$ 245 Million
Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund	Yen 32070 Million

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Modern and people friendly design for development of National Highways are being adopted for all National Highways by National Highways Authority of India.

[Translation]

Counter Guarantee to Fast Track Power Projects

1182. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of fast track power projects involving foreign collaboration given counter guarantee during the current year;

(b) the amount of counter guarantee given in each of such projects;

(c) whether the Government have prescribed any time limit to give counter guarantee to the said projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the details thereof?