

[English]

Illegal Felling and Smuggling of Red Sandal Wood in A. P.

6986. SHRI RAJAMOHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Red Sandal Wood is being cut illegally from the forests of Andhra Pradesh and then smuggled out to foreign countries and sold there at very high price;

(b) whether there is no provision in the Indian forest act empowering it to seize the smuggled Red Sandal Wood once it crosses the Andhra Pradesh border;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1980 suitably so that Red Sandal Wood may be seized anywhere on the Indian soil; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d). The provision of Indian Forest Act, 1927 are found to be inadequate to stop smuggling of red sandels wood which is reported to occur through Madras. The Central Government is considering introducing a bill for dealing with cases of Red-sanders in the country.

Pollution due to use of Pesticides

6987. SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great danger to wildlife, domestic animals and public health due to widespread use of pesticides for agriculture and if so, the corrective action taken in this regard; and

(b) whether any Voluntary Health Groups have been writing to the Government on this subject and if so, details of action taken on the Reports received on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Food contamination studies undertaken by the Directorate of Health Services on the occurrence of pesticides residue in common items of food show that a majority of items contain pesticides (organochlorine) within the prescribed tolerance limit. More studies are being undertaken to enable definite conclusions to be drawn.

(b) The Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has prepared a status report on Pesticide Residue vis-a-vis Consumer Protection and has communicated the recommendations contained in the Status Report to the Ministry. The Government has constituted a Standing Committee on Pesticides under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to review the status of pesticide use in the country.

Evaluation of Answer Sheets by Delhi University

6988. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether University of Delhi have stopped the Centralised evaluation of answer sheets for the ensuing Annual examinations; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether due to this system Annual results of a large number of students for 1989 were seriously affected and consequently they applied for revaluation of their scripts and the revaluation results were declared very late; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed to provide relief to affected students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, the University has decided not to have Central evaluation of answer scripts of undergraduate course for this year's annual examinations and to revert to the earlier system of sending answer-scripts to examiners. This decision has been taken due to financial constraints and difficulties relating to suitable working space for Central evaluation.

(b) The University has informed that the number of revaluation cases for 1989 examinations was proportionately the same as in the previous years, and the results of the University examinations were declared in time.

(c) Does not arise.

Sales and Production by H. A. L.

6989. SHRI Y. S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the sales turnover and value of sales and production of HAL during the year ended 31 March, 1990;

(b) how do they compare with the figures in the last two years i.e. 1989 and 1988;

(c) what were the items produced; and

(d) how much indigenisation was achieved in each item?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) and (b). The value of Production and the Value of Sales for the year ended 31.3.90 and the two preceding years are as under:-

	<i>(Rs. in Crores)</i>		
	<i>89 - 90 (Provisional)</i>	<i>88 - 89</i>	<i>87 - 88</i>
Value of Production	883.45	787.19	685.90
Value of Sales	806.03	689.17	679.77

(c) The major items produced were Jaguar, MIG-27M and Dornier-228 aircraft, Chetak and Cheetah helicopters and related engineers/accessories, besides overhaul of aircraft and aero engines.

(d) The indigenisation achieved in terms of value in respect of various aircraft/helicopters varies from 40% to 74% for airframes and from 35% to 72% for aero-engines.

Schemes for Development of Border Area States

6990. SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether special schemes were approved in the Seventh Five Year Plan for the development of the border area States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A special programme for the development of border areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir was taken up during the Seventh Plan period. This programme was utilised to improve in these