State Government of Gujarat; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING IN-DUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV). (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The State Government has been advised to submit their specific proposal in this regard to the appropriate Ministry/Department in the Government of India

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The matter has been discussed with the Chief Minister, Gujarat and taken up with the concerned Departments

(e) and (f) The question of rationalisation of excise duty on yarn/fabrics has been considered in the recent budget

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects of Himachal Pradesh

6446 SHRIKD SULTANPURI Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether Union Government have received proposals regarding certain irrigation projects from Government of Himachal Pradesh,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the amount likely to be allocated therefor in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA) (a) and (b) Only one irrigation project, namely Shahnehar Irrigation Project envisaging utilisation of Beas Waters, at an estimated cost of Rs 49.3 crores for a annual irrigation of about 26536 hectares is under techno-economic appraisal at the Centre.

(c) Eighth Five Year Plan proposals have not been finalised.

[English]

Effect of High Oil Prices on Deep Sea Fishing

6447 SHRI P.J. KURIEN. SHRI D AMAT:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESS-ING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

 (a) whether high oil prices and low shrimp catches have affected the deep sea fishing industry, and

(b) If so, the steps being taken to help this industry?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING IN-DUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV). (a) and (b) According to a representation received from the Association of Indian Fishery Industries, there are several factors including high oil prices & low fish catch which have affected the deep sea fishing industry recently As and when affected companies request Government/SCICI for rehabilitation assistance, such requests are considered on merits. No further permission for introduction of deep sea shrimp trawlers is given. A scheme has been formulated under 1990-91 plan scheme for modification of existing vessels for diversified fishing

Release of Beggars in Delhi

6448. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state