

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DE-
VELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Aravali Hill Area Development Pro-
gramme**

4067. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-
GAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased
to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government
has forwarded project draft of 'Aravali Hill
Area Development Programme' to the Plan-
ning Commission for approval; if so, the
details thereof;

(b) whether the Planning Commission
has approved the said project; if so, the
details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISH-
WANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes,
Sir. The Government of Rajasthan had for-
warded a proposal for the development of
Aravali Hills to the Working Group on the
"Development of Aravali Hills", constituted
by the Planning Commission. The Group
has already submitted their report which is
being processed.

[English]

**Re-Examination of Atomic Power
Plants**

4068. SHRI PRATAPRAO B.
BHOSALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be
pleased to state:

(a) whether re-examination of Atomic
Power Stations is essential after a period of
every five years or so; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor and the
amount to be spent for this exercise and
results to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOL-
OGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DE-
VELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a)
The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)
has recently taken a decision to the effect
that when an operational authorisation is
given for any atomic power plant, it shall be
initially for period of five years and shall be
reviewed thereafter.

(b) Safety review of nuclear power
plants is a continuous process during the
entire lifetime of the plant. A review of the
operational authorisation by AERB after a
period of five years would be in line with the
safety review philosophy of AERB. Such
reviews do not require any additional funds
of significance except deployment of limited
additional manpower during the period of
review. However, based on the review if any
modifications to backfits are called for in the
plant, additional fund required for such work
will depend on the nature of the work. An
assurance of required safety level of the
plant will be the result of such a review.

Social Forestry

4069. SHRI PRATAPRAO B.
BHOSALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched
several programmes to encourage social
forestry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and prog-
ress made during the last three calendar
years;

(c) whether social workers and volun-

tary organisations have also been invited to these programmes; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to encourage involvement of voluntary organisations in social forestry schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Afforestation/Tree planting activities which include Social Forestry, are being undertaken under various Central and State Plan Schemes. The progress of the last three years is given below:

1987-88	1989-89 (in million ha.)	(in million ha.)
Target	1.79	2.00
Achievement	1.77	2.12

The target of 1989-90 is 1.71 million ha., which is expected to be achieved.

(c) and (d). Voluntary organizations are already being involved in Social Forestry and Wastelands Development activities. Financial assistance is provided for this purpose under the Grant-in-aid Scheme of the National Wastelands Development Board, which was started in 1985. The Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology also provides financial support to Voluntary Organizations for rural development activities including social forestry.

Clearance to Deraparai Project

4070. SHRI R. MUTHAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for forest clearance for a medium irrigation project namely, Deraparai Reservoir in Madurai district has been sent by Government of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in giving consent for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Providing Text Books at Reasonable Rates

4071. SHRI HET RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the price structure of the various text books prescribed in the schools/colleges and universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to make the text books available to the students particularly belonging to the weaker sections of society at reasonable prices?