

(b) Does not arise.

Theft of Sandal Wood from Southern Forests

4110. SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRI N. DENNIS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have sought Central help to contain the unabated theft of sandal wood from the southern forests;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Union Government:

(c) whether any enquiries have been made into the alleged sandal wood lifting by armed and trained robbers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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) to (d). Proposals have been received from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka State Governments seeking Central assistance for protecting the vulnerable sandalwood areas in these States. No request has been received from Kerala State Government. Government of India has conducted enquiries into activities of gang of smugglers involved in sandalwood thefts and protection of sandalwood forests. Central Government is examining the request for financial assistance received from the State Governments and is contemplating special legislation for sandalwood in the country.

LAC Cultivation in West Bengal

4111. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether lac cultivation in the Purulia district of West Bengal is on the decline:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps for the improvement of lac cultivation?

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). Yearwise production of lac in Purulia district of West Bengal is given in the following statement:-

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Production (in tonnes)</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1985-86 | 1745 |
| 1986-87 | 1440 |
| 1987-88 | 945 |
| 1988-89 | 1225 |
| 1989-90 | 2205 |

(c) Steps taken by the Govt. of India to improve lac cultivation include free supply of broodlac to the cultivators and extension services through demonstration centres located in the District.

LAC Cultivation with Central Assistance

4112. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI BHAJAMAN BEHERA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the activities/programmes being implemented with Central assistance for lac cultivation; and

(b) the State-wise number of blocs where lac cultivation has been or is proposed to be taken up with targets achieved during last three years.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOR-

| <i>Sl. No.</i> | <i>Name of State</i> | <i>No. of blocks</i> | <i>Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)</i> |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. | Bihar | 6 | 10.80 |
| 2. | West Bengal | 2 | 3.60 |
| 3. | Uttar Pradesh | 2 | 3.60 |
| 4. | Orissa | 2 | 3.60 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 1 | 1.80 |

Minimum Needs Programme

4113. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to include the child care services in the "Minimum Needs Programme";

(b) if so, whether Government have received a memorandum in this regard; and

(c) if so, when Government are expected to take a final decision thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). The Government has received a memorandum for the inclusion of childcare services under the Minimum Needs Programme from the voluntary organisations. The recommendations contained in the memorandum are being processed for consideration during the Eighth Plan.

(e) The Plan is under formulation. Details are being worked out. A final view on this

ESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) Central Sector Scheme on lac development is being implemented in major lac growing States viz, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Gujarat.

(b) The Statewise information regarding number of blocks and amount sanctioned on lac development in the last three years is given below:

subject will be taken alongwith the finalization of the Eighth Plan.

Indira Mahila Yojana

4114. SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given up implementation of Indira Mahila Yojana;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of beneficiaries under this programme in Tamil Nadu during the past one year, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPTT. OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Government has not taken up for implementation any scheme under the nomenclature "Indira Mahila Yojana"

(b) and (c). Does not arise.