

(b) if so, whether alternative parks will be provided in such colonies in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of National Agency on irradiation of food stuffs

*318. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up a National Monitoring Agency to deal with all aspects of irradiation of food stuffs;

(b) if so, the task of the agency and to what extent information of such an agency has helped in irradiation of food stuffs;

(c) whether some foreign countries have also been consulted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Government has recently set up a National Monitoring Agency under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to deal with all aspects of irradiated food. The functions of the agency are as under :

1. The National Monitoring Agency would give clearance for various kinds of food stuffs for irradiation, in respect of which applications for irradiation are made.
2. It would determine the maximum dosage of KGy (Kilo Gray) for food stuff to be irradiated, subject to an overall average dosage of 10 KGy (Kilo Gray).
3. It would evolve guidelines for food irradiation practices in the matter of preservation of food stuff.

4. It would recommend grant of licence to facilities for irradiation of food stuff owned by individuals or institutions.

5. It would consider any other matter connected with the use of irradiation as a means of preserving food stuff.

(a) and (d). Recommendations and guidelines of International Agencies dealing with this aspect, like the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Commission on Radiation Protection were taken into consideration, while accepting in principle the irradiation of food as a method of preservation of food.

Hindustan Shipyard Limited

*319. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. have been continuously suffering from massive losses;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) efforts made by Government to bring Hindustan Shipyard Limited out of the red ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The main reasons for the heavy losses suffered by Hindustan Shipyard are :

- (i) The cost-price gap in ship construction as the present pricing formula is fixed with reference to International Parity Price which is not related to cost of production.
- (ii) Huge interest burden on the cash credit being availed of because of accumulated cash losses and also on the loan portion of capital restructure of the company.
- (iii) High cost of indigenous inputs.