

because Delhi being the Capital of the country I thought I must give a clear picture of it.

### Wasteland Development Centres

\*824. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of centres set up by the Wasteland Development Board for the development of wasteland in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the financial assistance given to the

State Government for the purpose;

(c) the areas of land developed in the State during the last two years and the amount utilised so far; and

(d) the details of the programme chalked out in this regard for the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) to (d). A statement is given below.

### STATEMENT

(a) No centre has been set up by the National Wastelands Development Board in Andhra Pradesh for development of wastelands.

(b) Does not arise,

(c) The area covered under the afforestation programme and the amount utilised thereon in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years is given below:-

Year	Area Covered (In lakh hectares)	Amount Utilised (Rs. in lakhs)
1986-87	1.43	3436.01
1987-88	1.52	3172.03

In 1988-89 the total reported coverage upto March 1989 is 1.42 lakhs hectares and the outlay provided was Rs. 3538.00 lakhs.

(d) Details of programme to be taken up during the Eighth Plan period cannot be indicated at this stage. Plans are approved on a year to year basis.

[Translation]

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to my Q. No. 747 on 26th on the same subject the hon. Minister had stated that no projects from Andhra Pradesh were pending and the 7 projects received from Andhra Pradesh had been rejected. And now in reply to part (a) of my question it has been stated that no centre has been set up

by the National Wasteland Development Board in Andhra Pradesh for development of Wastelands. Reply to part (b) is does not arise'. In which case does the question arise? Let your Government tell us what should we ask. Whichever project we may seek, whether it pertains to agriculture, industry or health your stock reply is always no. Has your Government ever responded in the positive. What does your Government want ? We may act accordingly. Our strength in the House is 30, what reply should give to the public ? What crime has been committed by the public, what is their fault ? You tell us when will you give a positive response.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has prefaced his supplementary question and speech with

a reference to the reply to an earlier question that the projects from his state were rejected. Obviously the present question is in no way related to that question. So, I don't consider it proper to answer it. The hon. Member wanted to know the number of centres set up in Andhra Pradesh under the Wasteland Development scheme. We replied that no centre has been set up, as there is no provision of setting up such centres under that scheme. Nowhere in the country we have set up such centers. If the hon. Member had read the answer further down, it would have become clear to him that even though no centre has been set up, during 1986-87 Rs. 3436 lakh were provided to Andhra Pradesh and afforestation was done in 1.43 lakh hectares of land. During 1987-88, the centre provided Rs. 3172 lakhs and afforestation was done in 1.52 lakh hectares of land. Somewhat similar is the position during 1988-89. Thus, the reply is specific about the amount given to Andhra Pradesh and the achievement made.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on what basis and to whom, the amount stated by the hon. Minister, has been given. Has it been distributed directly to the farmers or through certain individuals or officers? On what basis...*(Interruptions)*... what do you want. What is the problem with you? Please tell me. I am seeking information, what is your problem...*(Interruptions)* ...

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: In this way the time of the House is being wasted...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: I asked about the details of the programme chalked out in this regard for the Eighth Five Year Plan. The reply is that it can not be indicated. I want this information...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We feel the pinch.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: When they do not get anything, they feel the pinch. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that on what basis and to whom the money was given for

waste land development. All the waste land could be developed under the schemes which were rejected. No details of programme included in the Eighth Five Year Plan have been given. Please enlighten the house in this regard.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I have very clearly said that money has been provided to Andhra Pradesh i.e. A.P Government, they have already been provided Rs., 34 crores and Rs. 31 crores and this year Rs 35 crores will be given for afforestation programmes. Not it is left to the discretion of the State Government to utilise this money according to their policy for their schemes of planting trees, replantation of existing forests, wasteland development. etc.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA; Mr. Speaker, Sir, the waste land development is national problem. After 1980 A the country had to face a very serious problem. Every year, 1500 hectares of land was demanded of forests, but now it has been reduced to 150 hectares only due to the efforts made by the Government to check it. I do not agree with Shri Tulsiram. As you have stated, money is being given to the voluntary organisations for afforestation on the wastelands. But lakhs of hectares of land is yet to be brought under afforestation programme which has become barren. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if he will make some changes in the wasteland development scheme and ask the board to set up agencies to take up afforestation since the voluntary organisations in the country were not working properly? So will you make some changes to turn vast forest waste land into green forests?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the hon. Member has a misconception that all the sums in the form of grants by the Wasteland Development Board are given to the voluntary organisations under its various programmes. The voluntary organisations are of course provided some money but only a small fraction of the total funds are distributed through them. A major proportion of the funds is provided to the State Government by the Centre. There are forest departments

under the State Government which are working quite efficiently. They are manned by trained personnel. They play a major role but we welcome the participation of voluntary agencies, the number of which is quite large but they are given very little money. The funds are mainly provided to the State Governments. The hon. Member is quite right in saying that the condition of forests is serious. In view of this, it was envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan to strengthen this Board. There are many other schemes for further afforestation. I hope that much more extensive programmes will be prepared for the Eighth Five Year Plan, so that some solution is found to this serious problem.

[English]

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government has received a representation from the Darjeeling Tea Planters' Association for allowing them in Darjeeling to raise tea plantations in the forest waste and fallow land under the Forest Department; if so, what action the Government is going to take regard to their representation ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The plantation do not come under our Ministry . The Ministry of Commerce deals with it. As regards reserved forest tea area or other area, it is according to the policy of the State Government.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: A representation has already been made to the State Government and the State Government says that they have already referred the matter to the Central Government. That is a problem.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I want a separate notice for that.

#### **Campaign Against Spread of AIDS**

\*826. SHRI BANWARI LAL  
PUROHIT†:  
PROF. RAMKRISHNA  
MORE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) have jointly undertaken a coordinated campaign in the Pune city against the spread of AIDS:

(b) whether Union Government propose to launch similar campaigns in other big cities in coordination with the National Institute of Virology; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

#### **STATEMENT**

The National Institute of Virology jointly with the Pune Municipal Corporation had collected blood samples from prostitutes to conduct tests for HIV infection. The results of the tests were communicated to the Pune Municipal Corporation, who will issue health cards which will enable the prostitutes to obtain medicare and treatment facilities periodically. The National Institute of Virology is also screening the blood of persons belonging to other high risk groups such as blood donors and patients suffering from sexually transmitted diseases by obtaining blood samples from hospitals managed by Government and the Corporation.

Indian Council of Medical Research in collaboration with the State Governments has established 40 surveillance centres in 30 cities. These surveillance centres are also screening the blood of persons belonging to high risk groups for detecting HIV infection. It is also proposed to establish clinics for medicare and counselling facilities in metropolitan cities in areas where prostitutes reside in large numbers. Priority is given to four big cities for screening of all blood donations and facilities for blood screening are under expansion in these cities.