

[English]

Violation of Pollution Control Acts in Jammu and Kashmir

1467. SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of inspections conducted by State Pollution Control Board, Jammu to various Industrial units for violation of provisions of anti-pollution laws by various industries in the State; and

(b) the details of action taken, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Regular inspections of the polluting industries are being undertaken by the State Pollution Control Board. Two major units namely, M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited and M/s. Bhilwara Textiles Limited have set up effluent treatment plants. The Board has initiated action against four distilleries which have failed to provide adequate effluent treatment facilities.

[Translation]

Waiver of Farmers' Loans

1468. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure to be borne by the Union Government due to waiving off loans of farmers during the first nine months of 1990;

(b) the total number of farmers benefited under this scheme;

(c) the number of farmers whose loans are still to be waived; and

(d) the extra burden likely to be borne by the Union Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (d). Government of India formulated the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 for providing debt relief to small, marginal and landless cultivators and artisans in respect of loans taken by them from the public sector banks, regional rural banks. State Governments have also formulated schemes for debt relief on the pattern of the Central Government scheme for the cooperative banks. These schemes are under implementation. The process of identifying the beneficiaries and extending relief to them is in progress in most of the States. As per reports received from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the public sector banks, as on 31st December, 1990, 277.71 lakh beneficiaries have been identified under the Central and State Schemes, who are eligible for debt provided debt relief. Out of these, 202.58 lakh beneficiaries have already been provided debt relief to the extend of Rs. 5369.20 crores. As per the decision of the Central Government, the Central Government will bear the entire debt relief liability in respect of public sector banks and regional rural banks, and in the cases of cooperative, the Central Government will bear 50% of the debt relief liability and balance will be borne by the State Government. Accordingly, out of the amount of Rs. 5369.20 crores, being the relief so far given, the Central Government will bear an amount of Rs. 3942.35 cores. Since the process of identification of beneficiaries and extension of relief is in progress, it will not be possible to indicate the expenditure to be borne by the Government of India till the scheme are fully implemented.