

वर्ष 1997-98 के लिए खाद्यान्न उत्पादन के लक्ष्य को अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है। तथापि, इसके 200 और 202 मिलियन टन के बीच निर्धारित होने के संभावना है।

अन्य मुख्य फसलों के मामले में, योजना आयोग द्वारा निम्न लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये गए हैं:-

तिलहन	25.5 मिलियन टन
गन्ना	280.0 मिलियन टन
कपास	14.8 मिलियन गंठे
पटसन व मेस्ता	9.75 मिलियन गंठे

कृषि उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने में राज्य सरकारों को सहायता देने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा कई केन्द्रीय / केन्द्र द्वारा प्रायोजित योजनाएं क्रियान्वित की जा रही हैं। वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान, विशिष्ट रूप से फसल उत्पादकता एवं उत्पादन के लिए, निम्नफसलोमुख योजनाएं क्रियान्वित की जा रही हैं,

- (1) चावल आधारित फसल पद्धति क्षेत्रों में समेकित अनाज विकास कार्यक्रम,
- (2) गेहूं आधारित फसल पद्धति क्षेत्रों में समेकित अनाज विकास कार्यक्रम,
- (3) मोटे अनाज आधारित फसल पद्धति क्षेत्रों में समेकित अनाज विकास कार्यक्रम,
- (4) गहन कपास विकास कार्यक्रम,
- (5) विशेष पटसन विकास कार्यक्रम,
- (6) गन्ना आधारित फसल पद्धति का सतत् विकास,
- (7) तिलहन उत्पादन कार्यक्रम, और
- (8) राष्ट्रीय दलहन विकास परियोजना।

Cleaning of the Yamuna River

*142. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of actions taken to control pollution of the Yamuna river; and
- (b) the target date fixed to complete the cleaning of river and the cost involved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) To control pollution of the Yamuna river, a programme called the Yamuna Action Plan was approved by Government in April, 1993. Under this Plan, pollution abatement works have been taken up in 12 towns in Haryana and 8 towns in Uttar Pradesh besides Delhi. The programme covers such works as interception & Diversion of sewage outfalling into the river, treatment of intercepted sewage, construction of low cost toilets, crematoria and bathing ghats, river front development, plantation along the river and public participation. A sewage treatment capacity of 736 million litres per day has been sanctioned under the plan. The present approved cost of the Yamuna Action Plan is Rs. 479.56 crore. In addition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has taken up a programme for augmentation of sewage treatment capacity in Delhi from the present 1270 million litres per day to 2270 million litres per day at an estimated cost of around Rs. 260 crore. The target date for completion of the Yamuna Action Plan work is 31.03.1999 whereas that for the treatment works taken up by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is December, 1999.

To control industrial pollution directions have been issued under Section 18(1)(b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to the State Pollution Control Boards/Committees to issue notice to the defaulting industries which are directly discharging effluents into rivers and lakes giving 3 months time for complying with the prescribed discharge standards or face closure.

National Culture Fund

*143. SHRI AKHILESH DAS:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Culture Fund set up as a key instrument to revive and encourage people's

interest in their cultural heritage has not been able to secure the enthusiastic response from the Indian industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the desired target?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) The National Culture Fund (NCF in short) though set up on 28.11.96, was formally launched only on 29.3.97 by the Government of India. As such, the NCF has effectively completed only about 8 month's of its existence—a rather small period for an organisation that is expected to innovate on the Indian culture scene on a wide range. In fact, the NCF is yet to be considered in its formative phase needing the systemic support and energies of the Department of Culture for becoming fully operational. While this is being provided and the NCF seems at the threshold of a self sustaining momentum, the Department of Culture has concurrently taken a number of initiatives intended to actualise the objectives of the NCF. These include constitution of two bodies, as provided for in the Notification, for the management of the NCF; publicising the NCF through consultations with the representatives of the community and corporate sector and through letters to a large number of individuals and institutions; and formulation of a strategy for actualising the goals of the NCF. These initiatives have led to a better response to the NCF and the prospect of contributions to it is looking up. The Department of Culture is, therefore, reasonably optimistic about the future and success of the NCF.

Compensation to victims of Rail accidents

*144. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether compensation to victims of rail accident have been doubled recently;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in a large number of rail accident cases, Government have not yet given any compensation; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and steps taken to simplify the norms of compensation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS P ASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount of compensation in case of death and permanent disability has been raised from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 4 lakhs. In case of injuries, the minimum amount has been raised from Rs. 16,000/- to Rs. 32,000/- and the maximum from Rs. 1.80 lakhs to Rs. 3.60 lakhs. These enhanced rates of compensation have been made effective for the train accidents and untoward incidents which have taken place w.e.f. 1.11.97.

(c) and (d) As on 1.11.97, there are 703 such cases of claims. The claims are decided by the Railway Claims Tribunal and as soon as the decrees are awarded by the Tribunal, prompt action is taken towards payment of compensation.

Following steps are being taken for speedy disposal of claims of passengers:—

I. Administrative Action:

(i) Instructions have been issued to all Zonal Railways that as soon as a passenger train accident or untoward incident takes place all particulars of injured and killed may be obtained, claim application forms sent to claimants, and the record should also be made available to the concerned bench of Railway Claims Tribunal.

(ii) When claims are filed and put up for hearing, the railways should give all possible assistance to the tribunal for speedy settlement.

(iii) Written statements are to be filed by the railways in such cases within 30 days after receipt of notice from RCT.

(iv) After the decretal amount of claim has been sanctioned, railways have