

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (PROF. YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The main schemes of the Department of Electronics to promote development of latest technologies in the field of electronics are Technology Development Council (TDC) Programme, national Radar Council (NRC) Programme, Microelectronics Development Programme, Photonics Development Programme, System Engineering & Consultancy (SECO) and Automotive Electronics Programme, Electronics Materials Development Programme, Industrial Electronics Promotion Programme, National High Voltage Direct Current (NHVDC) project, Advanced Technology Programme in Computer Networking (ERNET), Fifth Generation Computer System Development Programme, Electronics in Health Programme, Rural Electronics Programme and Technology Missions.

(b) The budget estimates for these schemes is Rs. 59.73 crores during 1996-97.

(c) On the whole, India's capabilities in this regard as compared to other developing Asian countries are very favourable.

Population egg consumption in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa

570. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made to popularise benefits of eggs consumption in rural areas, especially in the North Andhra Pradesh and Orissa, to find market for the excess production;

(b) whether "Eggs on Wheels" programme proposed by the Vizag zone of National Egg Co-ordination

Committee would be assisted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under one of its Plan schemes extends financial assistance for the development of poultry and egg processing. Financial assistance under this scheme has been extended, inter-alia, to Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation Limited.

While the Ministry do not have any specific Plan scheme in this regard, the National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC) has been attempting to popularise the benefits of the egg consumption in the country through various mass communication media. The "Eggs on Wheels" programme proposed by the Vizag Zone of NECC would also be assisted by NECC.

Setting up of food processing Industries in Punjab

571. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy for setting up of food processing Industries in the backward districts and border areas of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to implement the policy; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (c) Government have been taking various policy measures for the development of food processing in the whole country including backward areas. However, these measures are not State