

10. उत्तर प्रदेश	9279	787	1967750
11. संघ शासित प्रदेश	0	2	8550
12. राष्ट्रीय स्तर के संघ	0.42	4	9400
उप-योग (ग)	40642	6800	10945668
कुल योग: (क) + (ख) + (ग)	54898	9363	13548848

Environment Fund

2022. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environment Fund designed to be utilised in the eventuality of a Bhopal like tragedy is stagnating in the absence of guidelines on its management from Government;

(b) if so, the difficulties that lie in the way of Government to issue the guidelines; and

(c) the steps being taken to issue them and thus enabled the Insurance Companies to invest the corpus of the Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (c) Presently, the General Insurance Corporation and its subsidiaries are maintaining the Environment Relief Fund in short term deposits in accordance with the instructions provided by this Ministry. Detailed guidelines are under finalisation and shall be published in the scheme for establishing and maintaining the Environment Relief Fund. The modalities to reinvest the fund have also been incorporated in the scheme.

Short-Term Loans to State Governments During Kharif and Rabi Seasons

2023. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government had recently been providing short-term loans to State Governments for kharif and Rabi seasons but the same has since been discontinued;

(b) whether Government propose to revive the same; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of projects to whom assistance was made available during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Central Government was providing short-term loans to State Governments for Kharif and Rabi season separately every year till Kharif 1993 to help them purchase agricultural inputs, namely, fertilizers, seeds and pesticides and make them available to farmers in time. Short-term loans to the State Governments have been discontinued from Rabi 1993-94 as no budget provision has been made for the purpose. There is no proposal, at present, to review the scheme.

(c) During the year 1993-94, Short-term loan amounting to Rs. 149.99 Crores was sanctioned to State Governments for Kharif season. During the years 1994-95 and 1995-96, no short-term loan was sanctioned.

Scrap Sale by Railways During 1995-96

2024. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Indian Railways had the highest ever scrap sale during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) What was the scrap sale during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

(d) What steps are proposed to be taken to keep this increasing trend in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes sir.

(b) The total value of sale was Rs. 1018 crores.

(c) 1991-92	Rs. 540 crores.
1992-93	Rs. 679 crores.
1993-94	Rs. 850 crores.

(d) With a view to maximised the sale of scrap, a management group has already been set up in the Railway Board headed by Additional Member (Stores). At Zonal Railways level the Additional General Manager at Zonal Headquarters and at Divisional level Additional Divisional Rail Manager at Divisional Headquarters have been nominated to closely monitor the progress of disposal and ensure that the scrap is not allowed to accumulate and disposal is prompt. The system is working satisfactorily and no further steps are proposed.

Abolition of Devdasi System

2025. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-

SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Devdasi system prevalent in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and other parts of the country encourages child prostitution and the spread of dreaded AIDS in these parts or the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to enact a Central legislation to abolish the Devdasi system in the country and rehabilitate the Devdasis; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) The Devdasi system, which was prevalent in some parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, has been legally banned. Despite this there are some reports that dedication in the name of God still continues, clandestinely, on a smaller scale.

(c) and (d) There does not seem to be a need for a Central law on the subject since the problem is of a localised nature. Both the states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have enacted laws for the prohibition of Devdasi system in these states. These are:

1. The Andhra Pradesh Devdasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1985.

2. The Karnataka devdasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1987.

The commercial aspect of this practice attracts provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 as amended in 1978 and in 1986. This supplements the substantive laws against kidnapping, sale, abduction and wrongful detention of women and girls.

Setting up of a National Commission for Youths

2026. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN