

Rehabilitation Package of Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd.

2127. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state The details of achievement under "Rehabilitation Package" of Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd. (Orissa) since 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): The Rehabilitation and Resettlement Package formulated by Government of Orissa is being implemented by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in its Coalfields. Since 1992, 139 families have been resettled in the rehabilitation sites of M.C.L. and 670 families are in the process of shifting to rehabilitation site. 920 land oustees have been provided employment during this period.

औषधीय गुण वाली वनस्पतियों का एकस्व (पेटेन्ट)

2128. श्री नागेन्द्र नाथ ओझा: क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नीम, अदरक, हल्दी, बेल, तुलसी लहसुन जैसे औषधीय गुणों वाले विभिन्न पदार्थों और जड़ी-बूटियों के संबंध में हमारे देश में प्राचीन काल से ही जानकारी प्राप्त है और इनके बारे में न केवल आयुर्वेद के ग्रंथों में उल्लेख है बल्कि आम लोग भी इन वस्तुओं का उपयोग करते हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रकार की औषधीय गुणों वाली वनस्पतियों के एकस्व अधिकार (पेटेन्ट राइट्स) के संबंध में सरकार की क्या नीति है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मुरासोली मारन): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) पेटेन्ट अधिनियम, 1970 के प्रावधानों के अनुसार, वनस्पतियां पेटेन्ट योग्य नहीं हैं।

Promotion Policy in Export Promotion Agency

2129. SHRI THENNALA BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the promotion policy is not being properly implemented by the Export Promotion Agency in Cochin by its Head; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir. There is no organisation known as the Export Promotion Agency in Cochin. However, there is an Export Inspection Agency at Cochin under the aegis of the Export Inspection Council.

(b) Does not arise.

Census of Project Affected Persons by Sardar Sarovar Project

2130. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a census of all Project Affected persons (PAPs) has been done as suggested by Patil Committee that submitted its report on April 21, 1994 regarding Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the number of project affected persons; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (c) Based on the information furnished by State Government, Narmada Control Authority has prepared a master plan for resettlement and rehabilitation of Project Affected Families of Sardar Sarovar Project which has also been submitted in the Supreme Court. As per the details contained in the said master plan the number of Project affected Families State-wise at the end of December 1994 are as under:

Name of State	Families to be rehabilitated including major sons/daughter (December, 1994)
Madhya Pradesh	33014
Maharashtra	3113
Gujarat	4600
TOTAL	40727

Steep Price Rise of Essential Commodities

2131. **SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN:** Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been the steep price rise of the essential commodities during the period June 1995 to June 1996 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous two years in the country; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to check the price rise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) A statement giving the percentage variation in the wholesale price index number in respect of selected commodities for the period June, 1995 to June, 1996 in comparison to the corresponding period of previous two years in the country is given in the statement (see below)

(b) With a view to keeping the prices of essential commodities under check, the Public Distribution System is being strengthened to provide Foodgrains at cheaper rates to the poor strata of the society. Besides, stringent actions are being taken against the speculators, hoarders and traders indulging in unfair trade practices. The essential commodities are also being supplied through Co-

operative Stores, Mobile Stores, Kendriya Bhandars etc. at reasonable prices. Essential Commodities like pulses and edible oils are being imported in desired quantities to augment their supplies in the domestic market.

Statement

Percentage variation in the Wholesale Price Indices of Selected Essential Commodities June, 1993—June, 1996.

	June, 94	June, 95	June, 96
	June, 93	June, 94	June, 95
Rice	14.9	9.3	7.2
Wheat	11.8	-1.5	10.5
Gram	-8.1	9.5	9.6
Arhar	13.2	59.2	6.5
Potatoes	-5.7	82.0	28.6
Onions	13.9	-0.6	88.7
Tea	13.0	13.5	7.1
Sugar	23.6	-9.9	5.3
Salt	0.9	45.0	64.3
Vanaspati	6.8	11.4	-7.5
Mustard Oil	9.9	8.7	10.7
Groundnut Oil	24.5	21.2	-0.4
All Commodities	11.8	9.1	4.6

Import of Sugar by Pakistan

2132. **SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan had intended to import white crystal sugar from India in recent past;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether an agreement to this effect could not be signed between two countries at the last stage;

(d) whether it is also a fact that non-signing of such an agreement was due to sale of same quality of sugar by some other foreign country at much lower rate than agreed with India;

(e) whether such situation has affected Indian Sugar import deal;

(f) whether Government propose to take some steps in this regard to ensure materialisation of sugar import deal; and