

(d) As such multidisciplinary projects involving several languages and scripts are not being executed elsewhere, it is not possible to make any comparison. However, as the expenditure on equipment is limited to Personal Computer family of machines, the funds proposed appear to be small but are adequate to start with for such research.

(e) Does not arise.

Amount for the project of Forests Research Institute, Jodhpur

2154. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount involved in the project of Forests Research Institute, Jodhpur; and

(b) whether the said institute is functioning with the full sanctioned staff and what are the achievements of the Institute so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI): (a) An amount of Rs. 25 lakhs is provided in the Plan Budget for the institute during the year 1990-91.

(b) This Institute was set up in April, 1988. 48 persons have been appointed against sanctioned strength of 175. Recruitment to the remaining posts is in progress. Eight Research Projects relating to soil, fertilizer and moisture management, insect, pest and termite problems have been initiated during the year 1989-90.

"Damage caused to environment by the use of pesticides"

2155. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted regarding damage caused to environment due to continuous use of various pesticides;

(b) whether the same standards for which DDT has been banned abroad also apply in India; and

(c) what action Government have taken to check the continuing use of pesticides in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In India, the use of DDT has been banned in agriculture, it continues to be used for vector control. Some countries like USA, Canada, etc. have completely banned DDT.

(c) The Government of India has appointed a Standing Committee to review the implementation of various decisions regarding use of pesticides in the country.

Delay in setting up of Zirconium and Titanium Sponge Plant in Tamil Nadu

2156. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the setting up of Zirconium and Titanium sponge Plants in Palayakayal village in Chidambaranar District in Tamil Nadu has been delayed; and

(b) what steps are being taken to complete the project as scheduled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The project proposals are being progressed to obtain financial

sanction. However, advance actions have been taken for obtaining environmental clearance and acquisition of land.

Differences regarding basic approach for the Eighth Five Year Plan

2157. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
PROFCHANDRESHPTTHAKUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether there are any differences between the Planning Commission and the Ministries on (i) basic approach (ii) targetted rate of growth and (iii) sectoral allocation of plan resources ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): No, Sir. The Approach Paper, recently approved by the Cabinet, sets out the basic approach and the targetted rate of growth for the Eighth Five Year Plan. • Details of the sectoral allocations for the Plan will be provided in the Eighth Plan document.

Expenditure incurred on investigations into alleged payment of commission by M/s Bofors in Gun deal

2158. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been incurring huge expenditure on account of investigations into the alleged payment of commission by M/s Bofors in the 155mm Gun deal;

(b) what is the number of persons who visited foreign countries in connection with these investigations, the number of trips undertaken by them so far;

(c) the details of expenses incurred by Government since 1987 upto 31st March, 90 on this investigations, showing rupees and foreign exchange out-go separately;

(d) the total hours of the Parliament spent so far on the 'Bofors' issue; and

(e) the expenses incurred from the public exchequer on account of Parliament time on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) Ten officers of the Government have visited foreign countries in connection with the investigation. Only the required expenditure has been incurred.

(d) and (e) As Parliament is a sovereign institution, Government does not possess this information.

Pollutants detected under Ganga Action Plan

2159. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main pollutants detected under the Ganga Action Plan which has been running for last few years;

(b) whether any standards have been laid down for all the pollutants; if so, whether these are within the prescribed limits;

(c) whether all pollutants in the Ganga are being tested; and

(d) what corrective steps have been taken to ensure that integrated pollutants are not discharged