

like freight, interest charges etc. and issue price of foodgrains.

(b) and (c) The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to undertake a cost audit of Food Corporation of India's operations. The study is in progress.

Merger of NREP and RLEGP

*47. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to merge NREP with RLEGP;

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

(c) to what extent monitoring of the above programmes and employment generation are likely to be improved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No such decision has been taken.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

National Capital Region Plan

*48. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Capital Region Plan is still on papers only and has not yet been implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have contemplated any effective measures for the implementation of N.C.R. Plan and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a)

to (c) The Draft National Capital Regional Plan 2001 was approved by the N.C.R. Planning Board on 21-7-1987 for inviting objections/suggestions.

These have since been received and placed before the Board in connection with the final approval of the Plan.

Schemes for providing drinking water in problem villages of Bihar

*49. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several schemes for providing drinking water in problem villages of Bihar have not been executed;

(b) if so, what are the details of these schemes; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that adequate funds have not been provided to execute these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) During the Seventh Plan schemes costing Rs. 77.82 crores have been approved so far under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). As against this, the expenditure incurred by the State Government is Rs. 56.52 crores from 1-4-1985 to 30-6-1988. Thus, schemes worth Rs. 21.30 crores are at different stages of execution.

(c) In the first three years of the Seventh Plan, the Central Government had released Rs. 52.18 crores under ARWSP, excluding a sum of Rs. 5.28 crores available as opening balance (as on 1-4-85) of unutilised funds of the previous years. The expenditure reported by the State Government during the same period was Rs. 49.12 crores leading to an opening balance of Rs. 8.34 crores as on 1-4-88. Against the allocation of Rs. 29.50 crores for 1988-89, a sum of Rs. 14.827 crores has

already been released and the balance amount would be released in October, 1988 subject to fulfilment of the prescribed conditions.

Under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), State Government spent Rs. 75.72 crores during the first three years of Seventh Plan. A provision of Rs. 29.5 crores has been made under MNP in 1988-89. Thus, adequate funds are available for execution of schemes for supply of safe drinking water in problem villages included in the Action Plan for 1988-89 in the State.

Collaboration with Pepsi Cola

*50. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for collaboration of the Pepsi Cola with Punjab Agro and Voltas Limited, the co-promoters has been cleared by the Project Approval Board;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Project Approval Board (PAB) has considered the proposal and it is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Relief to Fertilizer Industry

*51. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give relief to fertilizer industry for meeting higher inventory carrying

costs and to allow discount to the consumers; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present under consideration of Government to give relief to the fertiliser industry for meeting higher inventory carrying costs.

In pursuance of the announcement made by Government in the Budget for 1988-89, asking fertiliser companies to offer discount of 7-1/2 per cent on the maximum consumer price of urea, the Government issued orders in April, 1988 to compensate the indigenous manufacturers for the discounts on actual sales of urea subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. These discounts are effective from 1-4-1988.

Flood due to breach in embankment of Patiala Nadi

*52. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a recent flash flood caused by a wide breach in the embankment of Patiala Nadi nearly one third of Patiala city was submerged in flood waters and some persons have been killed and thousands rendered homeless as a consequence thereof; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the estimated loss of life and property as a result thereof, the outcome of the inquiry, if any, conducted into the circumstances under which wide breach in the embankment of the Nadi took place and the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b) According to information received from the State Government of Punjab, heavy rains of about 200 mm within a period of ten hours on 3rd and 4th