

(b) whether the Supreme Court has directed that the services of the employees, who have completed more than 6 months' service should be regularised; if so what is the follow-up action taken in this regard?

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

(a) Number of employees on daily wages are as under:—

Period	MCD	DWS & SDU
7 years	5936	184
5 years	6765	674
3 years	4871	2752

(b) The Court pronounced judgement in the case of "Surinder Singh Vs CPWD" and this judgement was followed by the Supreme Court in the case of "Brahm Prakash Bhardwaj Vs. MCD", "Jeet Singh Vs. MCD" and "Radhey Shyam Vs. MCD", etc. Regularisation of Daily Wage workers has been/is being continuously done in a phased manner as per resolution No. 709 dt. 20-1-78 of the Standing Committee of the Corporation.

Flood Losses in Various States

716. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the cumulative total value of damages suffered from floods by various States in the last 3 years;

(b) the recommendations of the National Flood Commission that were recommended to the States in 1981 by the Centre for consideration and implementation and with what results; and

(c) the names of the States that have not yet enacted a legislation on Flood Plain Zoning to minimise the flood losses?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) This amounts to Rs. 9713.32 crores, as reported by the State Governments.

(b) The recommendations relate to flood management consisting of methodology of flood damage assessment, land use regulation, approach to the flood problem, maintenance, legislation on flood plain zoning etc. and were recommended to the States for implementation. From time to time, the State Governments are being reminded. These recommendations are in different stages of consideration/implementation by the State Governments.

(c) All the States, except Manipur.

Foreign Exchange spent for import of Steel

717. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the foreign exchange spent on the import of different grades of steel, special steel and steel alloys during the past three years to meet the demands from light and heavy vehicle manufacturers, earth movers, bulldozers, cranes and handling equipment manufacturers and other including the defence;

(b) the number of years Government are likely to take to be self sufficient to meet the requirement of such steel;

(c) whether Government are considering a proposal to convert the Salem Steel Mills to composite graded steel manufacturing unit; and

(d) if so what is the present stage and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR):

(a) Data on import on the lines desired are not maintained by the Directorate General of Commercial In-

telligence and Statistics who compile and publish import statistics including those for import of steel.

(b) The attainment of self-sufficiency in steel will depend upon the rate of growth of indigenous production and demand. Efforts are being made to attain self-sufficiency during the course of the Eighth Plan period. Some varieties of special steel are, however, likely to continue to be imported.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with Government at present for conversion of Salem Steel Mills to a composite graded steel manufacturing unit.

Interlinking of Country's Major Rivers

718. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Committee or an experts team to make a study of the possibilities of interlinking major rivers of the country to form the nucleus of the National water grid;

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

(c) if not, whether Government undertake to explore the possibilities of interlinking major rivers?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) A national perspective for water resources development has been formulated by the Government for transfer of surplus waters to deficit areas by linking of rivers, and studies with regard to its nepinsular component have been taken up by the National Water Development Agency set up by the Government of India.

Sunflower cultivation

719. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to increase the acreage of the cultivation of sunflower;

(b) what is the proportion of sunflower oil to the total oil (edible) production in the country; and

(c) whether government propose to introduce special incentives and subsidies for sunflower cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) For increasing the area under Sunflower cultivation in the country, inter-cropping, sequential cropping of Sunflower and its introduction to new areas have been taken up under the National Oilseeds Development Project. The project provides financial assistance for input supply and input services and demonstrations in order to induce the farmers to take up Sunflower cultivation on a large scale.

(b) Percentage of Sunflower oil to total edible oil is about 3.5 per cent.

(c) In addition to the National Oilseeds Development Project which provides 50% Central assistance for oilseeds including Sunflower, a new project "Oilseeds Production Thrust Project" has been sanctioned for kharif 1987 with 100% Central assistance for seed production, plant protection measures, seed minikits distribution, demonstrations etc. of Oilseeds including Sunflower particularly in non-traditional areas.

Drip Irrigation Subsidy

720. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have proposals to subsidise the cost of initial introduction of drip irrigation by small and marginal farmers; and