

(b) The proposed scheme 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development' envisages supporting small farmer and landless labour families to take up backyard poultry activity based on a three-tier concept of State Implementing Agencies (SIA), mother units and beneficiaries with backward and forward linkages and involvement of NGOs. Training will be an important feature of the scheme. Marketing of the surplus produce is expected to be ensured through proposed marketing outlets. The beneficiary and mother units are proposed to be assisted by way of subsidy and loan components.

(c) The scheme is expected to be launched after receiving due approval in 2006-07.

(d) The Government has provided a financial assistance of Rs. 64.46 crores to upgrade a total of 131 State Poultry Farms in the country from 1999-2000 till March 2006. This includes an amount of Rs. 47.92 lakhs provided to the State of Andhra Pradesh in 2004-05 for strengthening District Poultry Farm, Mamnour, Warangal District. These farms multiply and distribute birds suitable for backyard poultry.

Jobs to Sports Person in Railway

†*516. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to adopt talented sports persons by providing jobs to them in the Railways or by giving them training after constituting a sports cell in view of Commonwealth Games to be organized in 2010 in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) and (b) Railway Sports Promotion Board at apex level and Sports Associations at Zonal Railway's levels are functioning for promotion of sports in the Indian Railways. This includes recruitment of talented sportspersons, their training and participation in sports activities at Railways, National and International levels. When Railways sportspersons are part of National terms in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

international competitions, the training is provided by the concerned National Sports Federation and all the supporting assistance is provided by the Indian Railways. For Commonwealth Games, 2010 also the existing arrangement will continue.

(c) Does not arise.

Quality of Wheat Imported from Australian Wheat Board

†*517. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that doubts have been raised about the quality of wheat when its first consignment reached the country after being imported from the Australian Wheat Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the source which raised this doubt?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Central Food Laboratory (CFTRI) Mysore in its initial analysis of a sample, which as informed by the STC was drawn from the surface layer of the imported wheat, immediately on opening of the hatches, had reported residues of one pesticide "Fenitrothion", to be in excess of the prescribed limit. However the analysis by the CFTRI of the composite sample taken from the consignment, found that the presence of the same pesticide "Fenitrothion", was only 0.01 mg/kg (ppm), as against the prescribed limit of 0.02 mg/kg (ppm), thus falling well within the Maximum Residue Limit provided under the PFA Act 1954.

Small Scale Industries in rural Punjab

*518. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of small scale manufacturing units in the rural areas in Punjab based on timber have been closed down due to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.