

[20 August, 2004]

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Zone regulations. The workshop also recognised the need to ensure that the population living on the coast were able to lead a healthy life in conditions of human dignity. This would require access at affordable cost to fresh water resources, land for housing, sanitation facilities and energy within the carrying capacity of the environment. However, specific solutions to such issues will have to be based on local conditions.

(c) As a sequel to the above Workshop, an Expert Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, an eminent scientist to identify and examine all the issues relating to coastal zone management on scientific basis and to recommend necessary amendemnts in the regulatory framework consistent with the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Ban on Phenformin

*379. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the anti-diabetic drug "Phenformin" was banned in the United States in 1971;

(b) whether this drug is continued to be manufactured and sold in India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of the companies manufacturing this product in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) the drug 'Phenformin' was withdrawn in USA in 1971 because of reported occurrence of lactic acidosis in some patients with the use of the drug. The matter was also examined in consultation with Experts in India during early eighties. It was opined by the Experts that lactic acidosis reported in the West is not common in Indian Population and the drug was effective as an oral antidiabetic drug. Therefore, the drug was not withdrawn or banned in the country. However, the issue concerning continued use of Phenformin has been reviewed in light of fact that new and better oral anti-diabetic drugs are now available. The matter was then re-examined by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) in its 52nd meeting which was held on 10th April, 2003 and after detailed deliberation, DTAB recommended withdrawal of Phenformin.

Accordingly, Phenformin has been prohibited for manufacture and sale in the country *vide* Gazette Notification No. GSR 780(E) dated 1st October, 2003.

Construction of Mangalore Fishing Harbour

*380. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Karnataka Government had in respect of the construction of Mangalore Fishing Harbour II nd stage, submitted a revised estimate of Rs. 144.667 lakhs for approval;

(b) whether a balance of Rs. 42.333 lakhs towards the Central share has not been released yet; and

(c) if so, by when the approval of the Central Government on the revised estimate and release of funds are likely to be expected?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD RAWAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Union Government in September 1997 had accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Karnataka for expansion of the existing fishing harbour at Mangalore as state-II at a cost of Rs. 75 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The project was to be completed by September 2003 as per extension granted. The Central share to the tune of 50% cost of the project was released in two instalments to the State Government, the first instalment of Rs. 30 lakhs in July 2000 and the second of Rs. 7.50 lakhs in June 2003. On scrutiny of the revised cost estimate proposal submitted by the Government of Karnataka it has been observed that the cost escalation in the project has mainly occurred due to deviation from the approved design, addition of new items/facilities and higher tender cost. The State Government has been requested to furnish adequate justification for the above.