

[17 December, 2003] RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the help rendered by UNDP, World Food Programme (WFP), WHO and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to the State in the individual fields; and

(c) how far this has helped the State in rehabilitation and restoration work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SWAMI CHINMAYANAND): (a) to (c) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned to undertake rescue and response measures in the event of natural disasters out of the ' corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), to which the Government of India contributes 75%. Additional assistance is also extended in the event of a calamity of severe nature from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) after following the established procedure. The State of Orissa has an allocation of Rs. 126.72 crore in the CRF for the year 2003-04, consisting of Rs. 95.04 crore as Central Government's contribution. The entire Central contribution has been released.

In addition to CRF, an amount of Rs. 104.53 crore has been released to the Government of Orissa from NCCF for floods of 2003. Besides, 3.00 lakh MTs of rice have been approved for employment generation programme under SGRY. Armed Forces were deployed for assisting the State machinery in the flood affected areas.

UN agencies also provided assistance to the Government of Orissa for relief operations in the flood affected areas during 2003. UNDP had provided 18000 temporary shelter materials and distributed 2000 family survival kits. WHO had supplied 25000 ORS packet. UNICEF had supplied 15 million halogen tablets, 250 MT bleaching powder, 4.5 million sachets of oral dehydration salts, 50000 bottles of intravenous fluids, 10 MT of Calcium Hypochlorite, 20000 jerrycans for water storage, 10 million chloroquine tablets and 150000 bottles of Chloroquine syrup and 7000 tarpaulin sheets for temporary shelters.

Study on effect of windmills on rainfall

1635. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study into recent reports of windmills affecting rainfall has been made; and

(b) if so, the findings of such study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCE (SHRIM. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The India Meteorological Department has examined the reports about the effect of wind mills on rainfall. In this regard, they have stated that structure such as wind mills do not affect rainfall.

**Bill to prescribe limit of construction and mining work in
Himalayan States**

†1636. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to prescribe any limit for construction and mining work in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and other Himalayan States in order to minimise threat of natural calamities in the region;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to move a Bill to prescribe limit of construction and mining work; and

(c) if so, by when the Bill is likely to be moved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Ministry of Mines is responsible for administration of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR) Act which provides for development and regulation of mines and minerals under the control of the Union. Section 18 of MMDR Act enjoins upon the Central Government to take all necessary steps for the conservation and systematic development of minerals and for the protection of the environment, to insure conservation and systematic development of minerals and protection of environment, all leasees of major minerals are required to get the mining plan approved, before actual mining can take place. The mining plan *inter-alia* includes assessment of impact of mining activity on forest, land surface and environment including air and water pollution, details of scheme of restoration of the area by afforestation, land reclamation, use of pollution control devices and such other measures as may be

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.