

quantities of foodgrain released through PDS depend on the availability in Central Pool, need for buffer for food security, inter-se requirements of different areas etc. Government makes continual efforts to strengthen and streamline the PDS, and takes steps to check and punish malpractices in the system.

Backward Districts in Andhra Pradesh

169. SHRI M.V..V.S. MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the districts in Andhra Pradesh declared as back-ward and are getting central subsidy for setting up industrial units:

(b) whether there is any proposal to refix the norms to declare a district as a backward district;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to add more districts in the lists of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a). The centrally declared backward districts in Andhra Pradesh are Anan-

tapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Srikakulam and Warangal.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Sugar Factories in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh

170. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of Sugar Factories with their existing capacity and the Sugarcane-cultivated land and cane production in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, separately;

(b) whether any applications are pending with the Union Government from Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for permission/Licence to establish Sugar factories; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The desired information is given below:-

sugar	No. of existing (Lakh factories as on 30.9.91	Installed capacity cultivation tonnes) as on 30.9.91	Land under sugar cane during 1990-91 (Estimated) (in thousand hectares)	Cane production during (Estimated) (in thousand tonnes)
1. Maharashtra	101	31.23	444	38416
2. Andhra Pradesh	34	5.523	189	13754

(b) and (c). The details of the 288 pending applications of the States of Mahar-

ashtra and Andhra Pradesh are given in the Statement attached.