

**THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):**

(a) Based on the quick and provisional tabulation of 43rd round (July, 1987 to June, 1988) of the National Sample Survey data on household consumer expenditure, the number of people living below poverty line in the country has been estimated at 232.38 million for the year 1987-88.

(b) The entitlement under Public Distribution System is of universal nature. The State Governments/U.T. Administrations have been advised from time to time to strengthen the Public Distribution System especially in remote, far-flung areas, Harijan Basties, Tribal areas etc., in which the bulk of the poor people live. They have also been advised to introduce mobile fair price shops in such remote areas where setting up regular shops is not feasible. Financial assistance is provided to State Govts/UT Administrations for purchase of vans under a Scheme for the purpose.

[*Translation*]

**Medium Irrigation Projects of Madhya Pradesh Pending with Union Government**

2557. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of medium irrigation schemes in Madhya Pradesh which are under the consideration of Union Government;

(b) the names of medium irrigation schemes relating to Rajgarh district therefrom; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Five medium irrigation projects are Baha, Sutiapat

Mahuar, Gej and Barchar.

(b) None.

(c) Techno-economic Appraisal of these projects has been completed and comments sent to the State Government for compliance.

**Import of Sugar**

2558. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry in the alleged bunglings made in import of sugar during October-November, 1989; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). At present certain preliminary investigations relating to import of sugar have been undertaken by the Investigating Agencies of the Government.

**Contract System in FCI**

2559. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract system is still continuing in the Food Corporation of India, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Food Corporation of India have issued instructions to discontinue the contract system in the Corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) The Food Corporation of India is having

contract labour system in most of the Food Storage depots as the work of food handling in FCI is generally sporadic and intermittent in nature.

(b) and (c). Keeping in view adequacy of the workload, instructions have been issued to prohibit employment of contract labour in 57 depots. For the remaining depots, instructions have been issued to replace contract labour system by forming genuine labour cooperative societies or by mate system where it is not feasible to form such societies.

[English]

#### Labour Cases Pending in Delhi and Orissa

2560. SHRI RAVINARAYAN PANI. Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) number of cases pending in labour courts in Delhi and Orissa;

(b) whether Government propose to set up some new schemes to avoid delay in disposal of these cases in labour courts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) As on 30th June, 1989 the number of industrial disputes pending in Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals set up by Delhi Administration and the Government of Orissa were as under:

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1.	Delhi	:	15,623
2.	Orissa	:	352

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(b) and (c). The following measures have been identified by the Central Government for expediting adjudication of industrial

disputes and action has been initiated in this regard:

- (i) Improving and strengthening of the Conciliation Machinery so that a larger number of cases are settled at the conciliation stage;
- (ii) Expeditious filling up of vacancies in the posts of Presiding -Officers of the Labour Courts and the Industrial Tribunals;
- (iii) Setting up of additional Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals as appropriate;
- (iv) Holding of Lok Adalats where possible.
- (v) Organising Seminars/Workshops and special training programmes for Presiding Officers of labour courts and Tribunals so as to orient them to the functions of the adjudication machinery.

#### Food Processing Industry in Orissa

2561. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Food Processing Units in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to set up such units in Orissa?

THE MINISTER FOR TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have not taken any decision to directly set up food processing units in any State.