

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
KARNATAKA	18,140	20,000	23,000
ANDHRA PRADESH	9,500	11,800	13,000
ORISSA	2,000	2,200	2,500
OTHERS	4,960	5,100	5,800

(b) The following steps have been taken to improve the quality of coir goods :

(i) The Coir Board observed quality year from October '93 to September '94 to educate the coir workers at the grassroot level on the importance of quality upgradation.

(ii) Establishment of common facility centres to improve quality of dyeing and bleaching of coir fibre yarn being used for manufacture of coir products.

(iii) Assistance for construction of loom sheds to improve the production infrastructure and quality of coir products.

(iv) Development and popularisation of motorised ratts and semi-automatic looms to improve the quality of coir yarn and coir mattings.

#### Rural Development Schemes

403. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
SHRI KANSHIRAM RANA:

will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has directed recently the Cabinet Secretary to assess progress in employment and rural development and to examine the various antipoverty programme;

(b) if so, the result of this exercise and whether the progress has been measured both in terms of physical target and fund allocations;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to evaluate the implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP); and

(d) the details of evaluation took place in the past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL) :

(a) and (b) . The progress of Rural Development programmes is assessed and monitored regularly every month through progress reports received from the States and through other methods. Reviews of the programmes are made from time to time based on such progress reports, tour reports of Area Officers of the Ministry, review meetings with State Government Officers etc. and such review notes are sent to prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat from time to time.

(c) and (d) . In order to assess the impact of various Rural Development Programmes, the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment undertakes Concurrent Evaluation studies from time to time with the help of reputed and independent research institutions/ organisations. The main aim of these evaluation studies is to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various programmes to enable the Ministry to apply measures for improving the implementation of these programmes.

The Ministry has carried out following Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) so far :-

- 1st Round - during September, 1985 to October, 1986  
2nd Round - January to December, 1987  
3rd Round - January to December, 1989  
4th Round - September, 1992 to August, 1993

The 5th Round of Concurrent Evaluation of IRDP has been launched from July, 1995 in all the districts all over the country. The sample size consists of 100 beneficiary families in a district spread over 10 sample villages. At all India level, therefore, about 50,000 families would be covered during the Vth Round.

[Translation]

#### Population Growth

404. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a survey conducted by the Government, the population of North India is increasing rapidly and the success of the Government in controlling the population growth is negligible in comparison to South India;