

(a) the number of persons killed in various States due to naxalite attacks during the last six months, State-wise;

(b) whether such incidents have been increasing constantly in naxalite affected States;

(c) If so, the steps taken by the Government to check the same;

(d) whether the Naxalite affected States have urged the Union Government to treat the naxalite menace at the national level;

(e) if so, the response of the Government in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have formulated any action plan for instant implementation by the affected States;

(g) whether the State Governments have also requested the union Government to provide more Central para-military forces to tackle this menace; and

(h) if so, the details of assistance sought by the affected States and the actual provided to them during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) As per the available reports, during the period July-December, 1996, naxalites were responsible for the following deaths :

Andhra Pradesh	:	105
Bihar	:	156
Madhya Pradesh	:	15
Maharashtra	:	9

(b) Through the number of incidents reported from the various State showed a decline in July-December, 1996 when compared to the previous six-monthly period, the number of deaths in these incidents have registered slight increase.

(c) "Public Order" and "Police" being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-naxalite operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of naxalite activities among the States. Further help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocations for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir, Central Government has taken

adequate measures to help the States to fight the menace. These include holding of coordination meetings with the States concerned as well as with the various intelligence and investigating agencies of the Central Government to exchange information, share intelligence, plan strategy and take coordinated action. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocations for modernisation of police and supply weapons. Training of police personnel in Anti-Extremist Operations has also been arranged.

(f) Central Government, in consultation with the concerned States has drawn an Action Plan in this regard which includes :

- (i) ensuring security of police stations, particularly those located in Naxalite affected areas;
- (ii) to have a common communication system;
- (iii) set up a Control Room in each State;
- (iv) Joint Patrolling; and
- (v) Launching of Area Domination Programme among the States; and
- (vi) Ministry of Home Affairs have also arranged for training of police personnel in anti-extremist operations.
- (vii) Strengthening of intelligence network in affected areas in concerned States;

(g) and (h) Central para-military forces are made available to the States to assist them in maintaining public order. The level of deployment depend upon the requirement of each State and the overall availability of the Force. As such to indicate the details of force or level of deployment will not be in public interest.

#### Arrears due of Sugarcane Growers

\*60. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :  
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) the present status of the arrears to be paid to the sugarcane growers, State-wise;
- (b) the details of payments outstanding for more than the last two years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the farmers are currently being paid their dues or the arrears have started accumulating again;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to ensure that the work of sugarcane crushing goes without hindrance and farmers are paid their dues ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The latest available statewide position of cane price arrears for the current season 1996-97, i.e., as on 31.12.1996 prepared on the basis of the information furnished by sugar mills, is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) As per the information furnished by sugar mills, the cane price arrears due to the farmers as on 15.11.1996 were Rs. 5.99 crores relating to 1993-94 and earlier season.

Accumulation of cane price arrears could be attributed to number of factor such as poor financial position of sugar mills, high cost of production, relating to SMP higher State Advised Cane Prices, inadequate sales realisation, etc. Further, during the progress of the crushing period, when the volume of cane purchased is comparatively higher, the arrears of cane price tend to increase, which gradually get reduced substantially by the end of the season.

(c) and (d) As per the information furnished by sugar mills, the cane price arrears which were 45.58% of the total price payable during the beginning of 1996-97 season, i.e. 30.11.1996, got reduced to 41.32% of the total price payable on 31.12.1996.

(e) The responsibility for ensuing timely payments of cane price dues lies with the State Governments which have the necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. The Central Government, with a view to strengthening the financial viability of sugar manufacturing units, has been pursuing a policy of encouraging stability in sugar prices commensurate with the requirement of maintaining a reasonable level of prices in the domestic market. Buffer stock of one million tonnes, permission for exports, judicious monthly releases of free-sale quota, etc. are some of the measures taken to improve the financial capability of the factories so as to enable them to discharge the payments due to the cane growers and continue with the cane operations.

#### Statement-I

*The Statewise position of cane prices payable, price paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 1996-97 season upto as well as arrears of cane price as on 31.12.96*

(Figures in lakh Rs)

State	Total price payable for cane purchased during 1996-97 upto 31.12.96	Cane price paid upto 31.12.96	Balance cane price payable, as on 31.12.96	% age of balance price payable over total payable
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	8596.78	1768.21	6828.57	79.43
Haryana	2997.68	227.57	2770.11	92.41
Rajasthan	64.30	0.00	64.30	100.00
West up	6166.16	4800.59	1365.57	22.15
Central up	6601.74	1564.15	5037.59	76.31
East up	1612.59	1176.01	436.58	27.07
Total up	14380.49	7540.75	6839.74	47.56
Madhya Pradesh	690.39	273.90	416.49	60.33
South Gujarat	8433.60	7764.55	669.05	7.93
Saurashtra	354.80	105.59	249.21	70.24
Total Gujarat	8788.40	7870.14	918.26	10.45
South Maharashtra	17527.42	14401.43	3125.99	17.83
North Maharashtra	4733.58	2653.56	2080.02	43.94
Central Maharashtra	12380.32	8607.29	3773.03	30.48
Total Maharashtra	34641.32	25662.28	8979.04	25.92
North Bihar	1083.14	0.00	1083.14	100.00

1	2	3	4	5
South Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Bihar	1083.14	0.00	1083.14	100.00
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	6791.35	3439.82	3351.53	49.35
Karnataka	11995.41	6123.95	5871.46	48.95
Tamil Nadu	5153.69	3001.30	2152.39	41.76
Kerala	440.62	282.10	158.52	35.98
Orissa	466.12	317.66	148.46	31.85
West Bengal	49.06	0.00	49.96	100.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	96.44	6.31	90.13	93.46
Goa	310.41	141.43	168.88	54.42
All India	96546.40	56655.42	39890.98	41.32

[Translation]

#### Welfare of Handicapped persons

398. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations from the State Government of Bihar for the Welfare of handicapped have been pending with the Union Government for the last one year;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALA) : (a) to (c) The State Government of Bihar has recommended certain applications of Non-Governmental Organisations for grant-in-aid to them under various Schemes for the welfare of the handicapped being administered by Ministry of Welfare.

Most of these applications have not been processed as the committed liabilities of the Ministry under these programmes did not warrant undertaking any new proposal. As there has been no enhancement in the Budget allocation of the Ministry of Welfare under different Schemes for welfare of the handicapped, no new applications are likely to be considered during the financial year.

[English]

#### Food Storage Depots

399. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of

FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct food storage depots in Tamil Nadu particularly at Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) As on 1.1.1997, Food Corporation of India has a total capacity of 7.55 lakh tonnes in Tamil Nadu with utilisation of 35%. Therefore, the existing storage capacity requirement of the State. However, as a long term plan FCI proposes to create additional capacity at the following centres in Tamil Nadu subject to availability of land and finance:-

1. Vilangudi (Madurai) – 25,000 MT
2. Ramanathapuram – 5,000 MT

#### Godowns and Offices

400. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation Offices and godowns in Maharashtra with total capacity of godowns;

(b) the order of investment made in construction of godowns during the last three years in Maharashtra by these organisations and the capacities added;