

(c) The Central list of OBCs in the first phase as notified by Central Government as given (a) comprises of castes and communities which are common to both the list in respect of the Mandal Commission and State Govts/UTs list of OBCs.

(d) and (e) Population data according to castes or Social groups other than SC/St are not available beyond 1931. However, Mandal Commission had in their report estimated the population of OBCs as 52% of the total population.

Coal Mines

623. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to close down certain coal mines in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(c) its likely impact on the production of coal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) As per the information given by Coal India Limited, the Gorbi Coal Mine of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) in Madhya Pradesh is going to be closed in 1996-97 due to exhaustion of coal deposits.

(c) CIL has also informed that there would be no effect in the total coal production of NCL as a result of the closure of Gorbi mine because production from other mines of NCL will increase.

Poverty Line

624. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have revised the criteria for estimating the people living below poverty line;

(b) if so, the present income ceiling fixed for determining people living below poverty line; and

(c) the State-wise break up of people living below poverty line and its comparison with correspondance figures in 1979-80 and 1989-90 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b) The Task Force on Protection of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand constituted by Planning Commission in 1979 recommended a poverty line of Rs. 49.09 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month for urban areas. This has been used as the criteria for estimating the number and proportion of poor in India and has not been changed. The poverty line is updated to allow for changes in prices affecting the cost of living of the people around poverty line. The poverty line updated

for the year 1987-88, the latest year for which State wise estimates of poverty are available, are :

Rural : Rs. 132.0 per capita per month

Urban : Rs. 152.3 per capita per month

(c) The State-wise break up of people below poverty line for 1977-78 and 1987-88 as per the latest available estimates is enclosed as statement. These estimates are not available for the years 1979-80 and 1989-90.

STATEMENT

State-wise break up of people below poverty line

(Officially released estimates)

Sl. No.	State	Period	
		1977-78	1987-88
(0)	(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	217.4	195.7
2.	Assam	84.4	52.9
3.	Bihar	364.2	336.4
4.	Gujarat	122.1	73.3
5.	Haryana	29.9	18.2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	10.7	4.5
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	18.4	9.8
8.	Karnataka	173.5	136.5
9.	Kerala	117.1	49.0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	285.8	224.9
11.	Maharashtra	296.2	214.1
12.	Orissa	162.7	135.1
13.	Punjab	25.5	13.9
14.	Rajasthan	103.5	99.5
15.	Tamil Nadu	244.4	176.9
16.	Uttar Pradesh	506.0	448.3
17.	West Bengal	265.5	173.5
18.	Small States & U.T.s	40.7	14.2
ALL INDIA		3068.0	2376.7

Buildings for Exchange in Kerala

625. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct new buildings for telephone exchanges in Kerala particularly in Allephy district; and