

(a) to (c) As per the latest available index of industrial production, the rate of industrial growth during April-June 1987 over April-June 1986 was 11.5 per cent as against 6.1% during the corresponding period of last year. The impact of drought on industrial growth would only be marginal.

(d) and (e) Government have taken a number of measures such as making available essential commodities through a wide network of public distribution, employment generation in the drought affected areas through relief works and improved supply of raw materials and power.

Allocation of Wheat and Rice for Tribal Areas of Orissa

3750. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the allotment of wheat and rice under Integrated Tribal Development Programme areas of Orissa during 1987-88;

(b) whether there is a need to enhance the allocation to Orissa in view of serious drought situation, and

(c) if so, the additional allocation of rice and subsidised foodgrain proposed to be made to Orissa during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c) Issues of foodgrains under the scheme for distribution of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices in the Integrated Tribal Development Project areas and Tribal Majority States are made out of the allocations for the public Distribution System. No separate allocations are made for the purpose

Detergent Industry facing shortage of Lab.

3751. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the detergent industry in the country is facing a crisis due to shortage of LAB

(Linear Alkyl Benzene) which is the main feed stock for this industry ; and

(b) whether there is acute shortage of LAB due to non-supply of kerosene to LAB units which had been established recently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHA AM) : (a) and (b) No Sir, at present, there is no shortage of LAB in the country and sufficient imported material as well as indigenous supply is available for the Detergent industry.

No unit manufacturing LAB, based on Kerosene as feedstock, has complained of any shortage or non-supply of kerosene.

Fixing of Limit on stocks of Essentials Commodities of Traders

3752. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Governments had been advised to fix limit on stocks of essential commodities to be kept by the traders to curb hoarding and profiteering ; and

(b) If so, the States which had followed the centre's advice and the names of States which have yet to follow ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Central Government has issued order fixing stock limits to be held by dealers etc. for pulses, edible oilseeds, edible oils, vacuum pan sugar and khandasari (open pan sugar). These orders are applicable to all States/UTs. So far as wheat and rice are concerned the Central Government has no proposal to fix specific limits. However, on account of the unprecedented drought in the country, the State Governments were advised to fix stock limits for wheat and rice, wherever and to the extent necessary, to prevent hoarding but the discretion in this regard vests entirely with the State Governments/U.T. administrations.