- (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):
 (a) and (b) An Assistant Civilian Staff Officer, a U.D.C., a Stenographer and two Peons of the Ministry of Defence have recently been arrested under the various Sections of the Official Secrets Act read with Section 120B of the IPC in 3 separate cases. Whereas the Assistant Civilian Staff Officer has been charge-sheet investigations against the remaining personnel are still continuing.
- (c) It is not in the public interest to disclose the names of countries for which these people were spying. The Government however, has taken up the matter and have impressed on them the need to exercise restraint in this matter.
- (d) Constant vigilance is being maintained so as to curb the undesirable activities of foreign agents in the country.

Scheme for relief to Adivasis

1865. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have undertaken any scheme for providing relief to Adivasis with regard to agricultural development, housing and recovery of Government and cooperative loans during the current financial year; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure proposed to be incurred during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Tribal sub-Plan is intended to promote the welfare and all round development of the tribals in the sub-plan areas. Various developmental schemes including development of agriculture, provision of housing facilities and promotion of cooperatives are included in the tribal sub-plan

of the various States and Union Territories Provision is also made to advance loans to the tribals for consumption purposes and the amount is recovered in easy instalments.

(b) The Sector-wise anticipated expenditure during the current year for the tribal sub-plan are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

254

- (1) Agriculture and allied sector 12977.85
- (2) Cooperation . . . 1609 67
- (4) Industries & Minerals . . 1712.72
- (5) Transport and Communication 4387.27
- (6) Social and Community Services 9121.56

Remunerative prices to farmers for cotton

1866. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what were the prices paid to the farmers for different varieties of cotton in 1978 and 1979:
- (b) whether the farmers were paid remunerative prices; and
 - (c) if not, reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c) The prices paid in respect of a few varieties are given in the statement enclosed. They have been ruling much above the support prices.

Statement

(a) The prices paid to the farmers by the Cotton Corporation of India for a few varieties of cotton during

1978-79 and 1979-80 cotton seasons (Sep.-Aug.) was as under:-

						(Price in Rs. per quintal).			
State	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		•	Variety	1978-79		1979-80-		
						Support price	Average, price	Support price	Kapas price
Punjab	•				J-34	255	283/331	275	321/424
					Deshi	210	239/247	226	250/366
Haryana					J-34	255	277/327	275	309/454
					Deshi	210	270/325	226	264/352
Rajasthan					J-34	255	274/359	275	316/400
					Deshi	210	297/368	226	277/395
Gujarat					S-4	380	454/508	410	428/575
Madhya Pradesh					L-147	300	350/358	325	375/446
Andhra Pradesh					1007	310	372/428	335	354/433
					Varalaxmi	415	494/544	448	501/540
Tamil Nadu	•	•		•	Varalaxmi Suvin	415 510	462/520 868/926	448 645	459/55 ⁸ 903'

^{*}Upto January, 1980.

essential commodities

1867. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instruction to all the States to take drastic action to make available to the people in adequate quantities and at reasonable prices essential commodities

such as sugar, kerosene and diesel;

- (b) whether Government have also directed the State Governments to carry out raids to unearth hoarded stock of essential commodities and made them available for public consumption;
- (c) if so, the other suggestions made in the communication;

- (d) whether the State Governments have drawn attention to the failure of the Centre to provide sufficient allotment of essential commodities to them; and
- (e) if so, the steps Union Government have taken to transport all essential commodities to the States urgently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) The other suggestions include strict enforcement of exhibition of stock and price list. In extreme cases and in case of habitual offenders action under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act.

^{**}Maximum so far during the current season.

Instruction to States on supply of