

Compensation from foreign insurance company for failure of INSAT

508. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:

SHRI N. E. HORO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would be getting Rs. 60 crores from the foreign Insurance Company for the failure of INSAT before the prescribed period; and

(b) what alternative arrangements have been made for getting scientific weather forecasts etc., in the absence of INSAT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS, OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) The Government expects to receive full payment of the Total Loss Agreed value of US \$ 64.9 million from the Insurers for the Total Loss of INSAT-IA Spacecraft as per terms of the Launch All Risks Insurance cover. The Insurers for INSAT-IA are the New India Assurance Company Limited of India. However, they have reinsured bulk of the risk in foreign re-insurance markets. The Insurers have been notified of the 'Total Loss' under the policy.

(b) Geo-stationary meteorological imageries and data relay provided by INSAT-IA were one among many inputs that go into making of weather forecasts. No other geo-stationary meteorological satellite imaging capability over Indian Ocean region with land and sea mass coverage of our interest is available. As such, until INSAT-IB is successfully launched and brought into operation, we would only have satellite meteorological imageries available from orbiting meteorological satellites of USA and USSR.

Vacant post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

509. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has remained vacant for more than ten months;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill the vacancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question of filling up post of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be decided after a decision is taken whether both the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are to continue or any one of them.

The whole question is under active consideration of the Government.

Inferior quality of Pozzolana Cement

510. SHRI BHERAVADAN K. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pozzolana cement produced by the indigenous industries is of very inferior quality;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any remedial measures for this;

(c) whether Government are thinking to prohibit the manufacture of Pozzolana

cement so that losses caused to the poor people can be stopped; and

(d) whether Government agree that portland cement is much better than Pozzolana, if so, why factories are not directed to produce only the Portland cement and what are the constraints for not doing it?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (d). Tests of samples of pozzolana cement drawn from the factories have shown that cement generally conforms to the ISI Specification No. 1489-1976. The Cement Control (Regulation of Production) Order, 1981 issued under the provisions of essential Commodities Act, 1955 prescribes that no person shall produce portland pozzolana cement which does not conform to this ISI Specification.

The compressive strength of Pozzolana cement at 7 days is the same as of Ordinary Portland Cement. Further, Pozzolana cement permits inter-grinding with pozzolana to the extent of 10.25 per cent thereby ensuring additional availability of cement. Therefore, the question of prohibition of the manufacture of pozzolana cement does not arise.

Total plan outlay for weaker sections of people in Uttar Pradesh

511. SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether total plan outlay for the welfare of the weaker sections of society in Uttar Pradesh has been increased, but the actual expenditure has been very slow;

(b) if so, what was the total outlay for such schemes and do what extent it has been utilised in Uttar Pradesh (District-wise);

(c) whether any committee was set up by Government of Uttar Pradesh or Central Government to assess and identify families below poverty line; if so, their findings and; if not, reasons thereof; and

(d) what were the main reasons for low utilization and what steps are being taken to utilise the funds properly and immediately?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Sixth Plan Outlay, expenditure reported during 1980-81, 1981-82 and approved outlay for 1982-83 for Uttar Pradesh are as follows:

(Rs. crores)

| Sub-Head | 1980-85 | | [1980-81 | | 1981-82 | | 1982-83 |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------|
| | Approv. Outlay | Approv. Outlay | Act. Exp. | Apurov. Outlay | Act. Exp. | Approved Outlay | |
| (i) Welfare of S.C. & S.T. and other Backward Classes | 35.00 | 6.45 | 6.32 | 6.75 | 6.59 | 11.80 | |
| (ii) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) | 314.30† | 43.80 | 28.24 | 52.56 | 48.73 | 65.00 | |
| (iii) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) | 291.60† | 66.99 | 32.63 | 66.80 | 43.25 | 66.80 | |
| Total | 630.90 | 117.24 | 67.19 | 127.11 | 98.57 | 143.60 | |

† Indicates Provisional

District wise expenditure figures are not available.