भग पूरे हो गए हैं। नेपाल के भीतर अन्वेषण-काय हाथ में नहीं लिए जा सके क्योंकि नेपाल की महामहिम सरकार से स्वीकृति की अभी प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

Written Answers

- (ख) वर्ष 1983-84 के दौरान इस कार्य के लिए 67.46 लाख रुपए के परिच्यय की व्यवस्था की गई है।
- (ग) और (घ) काठमाण्डू में अप्रैल, 1983 में सचिवों के स्तर पर हुई भारत-नेपाल बैठक के दौरान इस मामले पर विचार-विमर्श हुआ था। उस समय नेपाल ने लागत तथा लाभों की हिस्से-दारी से सम्बन्धित कुछ मुद्दे उठाए थे। नेपाल की महामहिम सरकार के साथ इस मामले पर अगली बैठक के दौरान, जब निर्धारित हो जाएगी, पुनः विचार-विमर्श किया जाना है।

Fixing the Prices of Essential Goods

3097. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are contemplating to fix the prices of at least twelve essential goods used by the common people and to sell them at uniform prices through Public Distribution System throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
 - (c) what remedial measures Government propose to take or have already taken to mitigate the sufferings of the people living below the poverty line in the face of the steep rise in prices of essential goods, especially of food articles?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR. M.S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b). Under the scheme of the Public Distribution System, the Central Government has assumed the responsibility for supplying seven essential commodities,

i.e., wheat, rice, sugar, imported edible oils, kerosene, soft-coke and controlled cloth to States/Union Territories for distribution to the consumers at fixed prices. The State Governments have the option to add such other items of mass consumption for distribution through the Public Distribution System as they may deem fit by arranging for the supplies of such items on their own.

(c) The main thrust of the Government policy is to increase the production of various commodities. The Public Distribution System is being expanded. Some commodities are being imported. The export of essential commodities is regulated. The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are enforcing the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and similar legislations.

Mid-Term Appraisal of Sixth Plan for Rural Development

3098. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any mid-term appraisal of the Sixth Plan targets for Rural Development has been completed;
- (b) the achievements against the targets set in the Sixth Plan for this period;
 - (c) the details of all short-falls;
- (d) the present machinery available to monitor the plan targets; and
- (e) whether any changes in such monitoring is contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating the targets and achievements under the major programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development as shown in the Mid-Term Appraisal Report of the Planning Commission is attached.