

Registered institutions	—	4,869
Cooperatives	—	30,112
Individuals	—	7.80 lakhs

Gadgil-Mukerjee Formula

1093. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a formula called 'Gadgil-Mukerjee Formula' for distribution of plan assistance to States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the formula takes into account factors like desert area, index of infrastructure, pattern of population etc.;

(d) whether there has been a demand for review of the formula;

(e) if so, the ground for the demand;

(f) whether the formula is being reviewed and likely to be revised; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The normal central assistance for State plans has been allocated among the States on the basis of a formula known as Gadgil-Mukerjee Formula, as adopted by NDC in December, 1991. This formula gives weightage to factors like populations, per capita income, tax effort, fiscal management and progress in respect of national objectives like population control, elimination of illiteracy, on-time completion of externally aided projects (EAPs) and land reforms.

(d) to (g) Yes, Sir. The State Governments have given their views on the revision of the formula and these views have been consolidated for placing before the NDC.

[Translation]

New Tourism Policy to attract more Foreigner

1094. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given its approval to a new tourism policy for increasing the foreign exchange earnings by attracting more and more foreign tourists and increasing their number each year;

(b) the details of points on which special emphasis has been laid in this regard;

(c) whether any special provision has been made in the above policy for making available all basic facilities in the States which are being neglected in the field of tourism industry; and

(d) if so, the details of such States which are likely to be covered under this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The draft National Tourism Policy prepared by the Ministry of Tourism gives special emphasis on (i) creation of awareness about the benefits of tourism, (ii) involvement of the private sector and the people in the development of tourism, and (iii) ensuring sustainability of development activities.

(c) and (d) The draft policy has identified North Eastern States, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Jammu & Kashmir, etc. as regions of special interest.

[English]

Export of Antibiotics

1095. SHRI K.S. RAO :

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Union has imposed five year countervailing duties against Indian exports of some broad-spectrum antibiotics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which these duties is likely to affect the exports;

(d) whether such duties were imposed in the past also; and

(e) if so, when imposed and how it affected the exports;

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. European Commission imposed definitive countervailing duties against Indian exports of three broad-spectrum antibiotics w.e.f. 6th October, 1998. These range from 4.6% to 12% in respect cooperating companies and a flat rate of 14.6% for non-cooperating companies.

(c) The export of the targeted broad-spectrum antibiotics by the concerned companies will be affected. The export of the three antibiotics in the year 1997 is of the order

of Rs. 41 crores out of a total approximate value of Rs. 1200 crores of export of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals to EU in the same period.

- (d) No, Sir.
(e) Does not arise.

Industrial Licence

1096. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that even after the liberalisation of Indian economy, entrepreneurs in India are still facing numerous travails, in getting permits, licences and because of the red-tape and that excessive Government control is killing initiative of entrepreneurship, particularly technology entrepreneurship;

(b) if so, the whether any steps are being taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to completely do away with licence raj and to promote technology entrepreneurship; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) After the statement on Industrial Policy was tabled in July, 1991, ushering in an era of economic reforms and liberalisation, Government has been continuously reviewing the list of items requiring compulsory licensing. Industrial licensing has been abolished for all industries except for a short list of six industries, related to security and strategic concerns, social reasons, hazardous chemicals and overriding environmental reasons. Even in these sectors, time limits have been prescribed and adhered to in clearing applications for grant of industrial licences.

In respect of new projects for manufacture of articles not covered by compulsory licensing or their substantial expansions, the only requirement is that the industrial undertakings shall file a memorandum in prescribed form to the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance (SIA) in the Ministry of Industry.

Automatic permission is being accorded for foreign technology agreements in high priority industries. No permission is necessary for hiring of foreign technicians, foreign testing of indigenously developed technologies.

Simplification of policies, procedures and practices is an ongoing process with the Government. Requirement of compulsory licensing has to continue for security and strategic concerns, social reasons and overriding environmental reasons etc.

[Translation]

Dereservation of SSI Items

1097. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to dereserve some of the items reserved for Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has proposed while presenting the Union Budget for the year 1998-99 to dereserve farm implements and tools reserved for manufacture in the small scale sector so that the farmers can benefit from a wide range of implements and tools at competitive price and with requisite after sales service. Suitable action to this effect has been initiated for early implementation.

Arrests Under FERA

1098. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of persons arrested under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, (FERA) have since been released; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof for the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Sir, data regarding persons arrested under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) are not maintained State-wise. Zone-wise figures of persons arrested during the last three years are as under :

	1996	1997	1998 (upto Oct.)
Ahmedabad	*	04	13
Bangalore	**	03	07
Calcutta	29	11	06
Chennai	47	31	15
Delhi	19	32	08
Jalandhar	28	23	06
Mumbai	100	55	22
	223	159	77

*Included in the data of Mumbai Zone.

** Included in the data of Chennai Zone.

Most of the persons arrested, are released on bail because FERA cases normally involve detailed, lengthy and time-consuming investigations, which do not get completed within the statutory period of 60 days' remand granted by the Courts.