

(e) The number of cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act,

1989 disposed off by the courts during the last three years.

Year	No. of cases in Courts	No. of cases ended in conviction	No. of cases ended in acquittal	No. of cases pending with the courts
1995	67209	713	6478	60018
1996	78177	1370	8588	68219 (provisional)
1997	78279	852	505 ¹	72376 (provisional)

(f) Government has been taking various steps as provided in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 some of these measures are as under:—

- (i) Central assistance is released to the State Governments (50:50) and Union Territory Administrations (100%) to support measures undertaken by them for effective implementation of the Act which includes the provision of adequate facilities including legal aid, the appointment of officers for initiating or supervising prosecutions, setting up of Special Courts, conducting periodic surveys, identification of atrocity prone areas and providing relief and rehabilitation to the victims/dependents of atrocities.
- (ii) During the VIIIth Five Year Plan, as against the provision of Rs. 27.70 crores, a sum of Rs. 50.17 crores was released as Central assistance. During 1997-98 against the provision of Rs. 15.50 crores, Rs. 16.47 crores and during 1998-99 out of budget provision of Rs. 15.50 crores Rs. 14.28 crores (as on 30.11.98) were released to the States and Union Territories for the effective implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

(iii) The position is reviewed from time to time with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

(iv) Ministry of Home Affairs in their letter dated 12.11.98 addressed to Chief Secretaries of States/UTs has requested them to accord higher priority in the framing, implementation and monitoring of the policies/schemes and to consider and appropriate mechanism for this purpose.

[English]

Registration of Unemployed Youths

1372. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed youth registered with the Employment Exchanges in the North Eastern Region during the last seven months, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for eradication of unemployment in this region?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) State-wise number of job seekers, all of whom need not be necessarily be unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges during January to June

1998 in the North Eastern States were as follows:

State	Total	Educated (Matric & above)
Arunachal Pradesh	2411	328
Assam	56504	41277
Manipur	8533	5953
Meghalaya	3758	2740
Mizoram	5376	7799
Nagaland	4662	3735
Tripura	2119	2092

(b) There is no special scheme to provide employment in the North Eastern Region. However, special employment schemes like IRDP, JRY/EAS and PMRY etc. are being implemented in North Eastern States. State Governments also implement their own employment schemes. Moreover, 10% of the total budget allocated to Central Ministries has been earmarked for North Eastern Region for development of the North-East.

Privatisation of FCI

1373. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give up the procurement of rice in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw the mass distribution system through Ration Shops;

(d) whether the Government propose to privatise Food Corporation of India; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Paddy is procured by the public procuring agencies under price support scheme of the Government whereas rice is procured under a statutory levy on rice millers/dealers. However, a proposal to implement the scheme of decentralised procurement of foodgrains in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar is under consideration of the Government. The Government of West Bengal has been undertaking procurement of rice under the said scheme from Kharif Marketing Season 1997-98.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Vacancies in CGHS Dispensaries

1374. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of posts of various categories lying vacant in CGHS dispensaries, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have taken any decision to fill up these vacancies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies and the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) The information is given in the statement attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts are filled up through U.P.S.C. The procedure is elaborate and time-consuming.

As regards 'C' and 'D' posts, respective CGHS offices have been empowered to fill them up.

(d) does not arise.

(e) Efforts are being made to fill them up expeditiously.