

level in next 5-10 years. The programme is weak in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

The outcomes of Family Welfare Programmes are determined by a number of factors e.g. (i) infrastructure and resources available for the programme, (ii) publicly stated support of opinion leaders and support in the community, (iii) efficiency of the State Health System and accountability of health functionaries, (iv) educational status of families particularly of women, women status in society and economic status of families.

In the States where the programme is weak, the above mentioned facilitating factors are also weak.

The Family Welfare is 100% Centrally Funded Programme. The Government has lately given high priority to the programme and allocation of resources has been increased from Rs. 1547 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 2489.35 crores in 1998-99. The progress of programme is being reviewed with the State Governments periodically and the State Governments are pressed to remove in implementation where these exists.

Liberalisation of Petroleum Industry

*227. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of PETROLIUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to announce a new package for further liberalisation of the petroleum industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLIUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) to (c) Pursuant to Government's decision announced in September, 1997 the dismantling of the Administered Price Mechanism commenced on 1.4.1998. The reforms are phased for completion by 2002. Government have also announced the New Exploration Licensing Policy to encourage oil and gas exploration.

[English]

Insurgent Activities

*228. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which are mostly affected by insurgent activities in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government have reviewed the law and order and insurgency situation in North-Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) if so, the prevailing situation in those States;

(d) whether Bhutan is a Centre of terrorist activities;

(e) if so, the initiative taken for checking such activities;

(f) whether a new action plan has been formulated to bring back normalcy in those States;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Union Government to remove unemployment and bring the insurgent groups in the national mainstream including the steps connected with providing an economic package in the insurgency affected States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The states most affected by insurgency and militancy are Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c) The law and order and insurgency situation in these States is constantly reviewed by the Government. There has been a significant improvement in the situation in Nagaland and hill areas of Manipur due to the Cease Fire between the Government of India and the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland.

There has also been a significant improvement in the situation in Jammu & Kashmir, particularly in the valley, due to sustained pressure, vigil and concerted actions of security forces and the States administration.

(d) and (e) There are reports that ULFA and Bodo militants have camps/hideouts in Bhutan. The matter has been taken up with the Royal Government of Bhutan through diplomatic channels. The security at the border has also been strengthened.

(f) and (g) Insurgency in the North East has never been looked upon only as a law and order problem. The development and deepening of democratic processes has been the basic framework within which the problems of the North East have been approached. Development strategy since Independence has been pursued within the broad framework of planning with a view to ensure that people develop along the lines of their own genius and