

1	2	3
10.	Karnataka	1.61857
11.	Kerala	0.79003
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5.08892
13.	Maharashtra	3.78673
14.	Manipur	0.31540
15.	Meghalaya	0.05397
16.	Mizoram	
17.	Nagaland	0.07240
18.	Orissa	2.00014
19.	Punjab	1.86550
20.	Rajasthan	1.27076
21.	Sikkim	
22.	Tamil Nadu	2.63912
23.	Tripura	0.06634
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8.38210
25.	West Bengal	2.30923
Total States		43.14769
<i>Union Territories</i>		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	
2.	Chandigarh	0.002966
3.	Dadar & N. Haveli	0.004220
4.	Daman & Diu	0.001300
5.	NCT Delhi	0.029154
6.	Lakshadweep	0.000243
7.	Pondicherry	0.002877
Total UTs		0.040760
Grand Total		43.18850

Statement-III

The core components for the overall strategy for the 9th Plan for Irrigation Development & Management

- (a) To improve water use efficiency by progressive reduction in conveyance and application losses,
- (b) To bridge the gap between the potential created and its utilisation by strengthening the Command Area Development Programme (CADP), institu-

tional reforms and promoting farmer's involvement in irrigation management,

- (c) To complete all the ongoing projects, particularly those which were started during pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period as a time bound programme to yield benefits from the investments already made.
- (d) To restore and modernise the old irrigation systems which were executed during pre-Independence period and 25 years ago.
- (e) To introduce rational pricing of irrigation water, based initially on O & M cost and then to encourage higher level of water use efficiency,
- (f) To take concrete steps towards comprehensive and integrated development of natural water resources, taking into account the possibility of inter-river-basin transfer of surplus water, and
- (g) To promote adaptive research and development to ensure more cost-effective and efficient execution and management of irrigation systems,
- (h) To promote Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) with full involvement of the water user community, which will be at the centre stage of the implementation of above strategies of the Ninth Plan,
- (i) To encourage and implement the conjunctive use of ground and surface waters towards optimal utilisation of water resources and to have its development environmentally sustainable as well.
- (j) To accelerate the development and utilisation of ground water, particularly in the eastern region on sound technical, environmental and economic considerations along with proper regulatory mechanisms.

Crop Insurance Scheme

*35. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the modified crop insurance scheme prepared by a core group has since been submitted to the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for the implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) The Small Group which was set up to fine-tune the views of the State Governments and other agencies on the proposed Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (MCCIS) has since submitted its recommendations. The main recommendations of the Group comprise coverage of all farmers (both loanee and non-loanee) and more crops including some cash/horticultural crops subject to the availability of yield data; charging actuarial premium rates; providing premia-subsidy to small and marginal farmers; implementation of the scheme at a smaller unit area; setting up a separate implementing agency, etc.

Based on the recommendations of the Group, the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) has submitted a draft Scheme which is presently under examination of the Government.

Passport Adalats

*36. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several complaints are being received from passport applicants regarding difficulties being faced by them;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to resolve these complaints;

(c) whether the Government propose to organise passport adalats for the redressal of grievances of passport seekers;

(d) if so, the locations identified for the purpose;

(e) the number of passport applications pending with each regional passport offices as on February 1, 1999; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government for early clearance of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (f) In the last one year, the public grievance redressal mechanism has been considerably strengthened. The passport officer meets the public everyday at a designated hour. All passport officers have been advised to maintain complaint registers. In addition to the public grievance redressal mechanism operating in all passport offices, a Central Public Grievance Redressal Cell at the CPO Headquarters in New Delhi was established in 1996. This Cell is manned by two Public Relations Officers and works under the direct supervision of Chief Passport Officer. Separate telephone and fax lines have been provided to this Cell for easy accessibility.

2. The passport officers are considering holding of periodical passport adalats. The Passport Office, Hyderabad, has already started holding passport adalats on an experimental basis and the other passport offices would also start holding these adalats based on the assessment of public response received from such adalats started by Passport Office, Hyderabad.

3. A statement showing the applications pending with each passport office as on February 1, 1999, is enclosed.

4. Every effort is being made to expedite disposal and clear backlog of pending applications.

5. The procedures for issue of passports are also being simplified and streamlined. Among the measures taken to expedite processing of passport applications are : computerisation of processing procedures, opening of new passport offices and collection centres, enhancing validity of passports to 20 years, provision for dispatch of passport by speed post, additional staff to clear the backlog of pending cases, etc.

Statement

Number of Passport Applications Pending with
Passport Offices as on 1.2.1999

Sl. No.	Passport Office	Applications Pending
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	17129
2.	Bangalore	38096
3.	Bareilly	23856
4.	Bhopal	3477
5.	Bhubaneshwar	4861
6.	Mumbai	27211
7.	Calcutta	12167
8.	Chandigarh	28491
9.	Cochin	9489
10.	Delhi	25143
11.	Ghaziabad	6610
12.	Guwahati	2875
13.	Hyderabad	30883
14.	Jaipur	29129
15.	Jalandhar	34117
16.	Jammu	7604
17.	Kozhikode	29018