

(b) The following table gives the detail of the employment in the Public Sector by different branches—

Table : Employment in Public Sector (Lakhs)

	1994	1995	1996	1997
1. Central Govt.	33.92	33.95	33.66	32.95
2. State Govt.	73.37	73.55	74.14	74.85
3. Quasi Govt.	65.14	65.20	64.58	65.36
4. Local Bodies	22.02	21.97	21.92	22.44
Total	194.45	194.96	194.29	195.59

Source: Economic Survey, 1998-99.

(c) to (e) The Ninth Plan envisages a reduction in the unemployment rate from an average unemployment rate of 1.87% in the Eighth Plan to an average unemployment rate of 1.66% in the Ninth Plan.

The approach to the Ninth Plan would be to generate productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, subsectors and technologies which are more labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and under employment.

#### Medical Certificates from CGHS

2168. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government employees are facing acute problems for getting their medical leave sanctioned because it has been made mandatory for them to procure their medical certificates from CGHS dispensaries only;

(b) whether the Government propose to allow its employees to avail medical leave and produce medical certificate from any medical attendant in places where CGHS dispensaries are not available; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) As Gazetted Government servants are already required to produce medical certificates only from Authorised Medical Attendants (including CGHS doctors), the orders requiring production of Medical Certificates from CGHS doctors, which have been issued on the basis of Fifth Central Pay Commission's recommendation are applicable only to those non-gazetted government servants who (i) are CGHS beneficiaries, and (ii) are also residing, at the time of illness, in the area covered by CGHS, The non-gazetted employees who do not fulfil these conditions continue to have the option of producing Medical Certificates from Registered Medical Practitioners. Relaxation of the orders is considered on merits in cases where the concerned Government servants are not in a position to produce Medical Certificates from CGHS doctors. However, some representations for withdrawal/ amendment of the said Orders have been received and the issue has also been taken up for discussions by the Staff Side, and the Government has an open mind on the subject, if any hardship is established.

#### Poverty Line

2169. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the date of last survey to determine poverty line;

(b) whether the Government have received representation to review the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that it depicts a true picture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Poverty line are not determined through surveys. The actual cost of obtaining the basket of goods and services which is considered to be the minimum for healthy and active life were determined from the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of 28th round (1973-74). These poverty lines are updated for changes in prices through state-specific consumer price index of agricultural labourers in rural areas and state-specific consumer price index of industrial workers in urban areas.

(b) Yes, Sir, several States have represented for review of their States poverty line.

(c) Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have represented for increase in their poverty lines on the ground that the consumer price index for their states reflects the effect of subsidies to foodgrains. Orissa has represented for increase in its poverty line.

(d) The poverty lines are worked out on the basis of the recommendations of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor, which after considering alternative methods of computing poverty line, recommended use of state specific poverty lines. The state specific poverty line are obtained by desegregating the national level poverty line by state specific price indices and inter-state price differential. These state-specific poverty lines reflect the cost of the consumption basket considered to be the minimum for healthy living, at prices prevailing in the state, and hence depicts a true picture.

#### Employees of N.S.S.O.

2170. SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation regarding extension of benefits granted by the Honourable Supreme Court/CAT in its orders to similarly placed employees (non-petitioners) of NSSO(DPD), Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation have been received;

(b) if so, whether the request of the non-petitioners has been acceded to; and

(c) if not, the reasons for refusal despite the Hon'ble Supreme Court's observation that non-petitioners should be placed on the same footing with petitioners in case of any dispute and as such petitioners should not be placed at a comparative advantage and also similar recommendations from the Fifth Pay Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not yet.

(c) As per the Policy of the Government, in general, the judgment of the CAT/Court is applicable in respect of applicants only unless and otherwise directed by the CAT/Court. In the Data Processing Division of National Sample Survey Organisation the benefit of higher scale has been given to the applicants only as there was no specific

directions by the Hon'ble Court to extend the benefits to the non applicants. The Government has also not yet taken any decision on the recommendation of the Fifth Central Pay Commission for extension of benefit of judgements given by different Courts to the non petitioners.

#### Construction of Dam

2171. SHRI UPENDRA NATH NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a dam is being constructed across the river Baitrani (Kanapur Project) in the district of Keonjhar;

(b) if so, the details of progress made in construction of the dam; and

(c) the time by which the dam is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) An expenditure of about Rs. 16.71 crores has been incurred upto March, 1998 against the latest estimated cost of Rs. 318.19 crores on Kanapur Project.

(b) and (c) The Headworks are likely to be completed during IXth Plan and the balance work will spill over to Xth Plan.

[Translation]

#### Co-operation in Agricultural Sector

2172. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:  
SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq has agreed to assist India in the field of agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) No formal Agreement has been signed between