

New Poverty Line

2272. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI M. BAGA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any final decision in regard to the proposal of new poverty plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main feature of the proposal;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared by the Union Government?

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) to (d) No, Sir, there is no such plan, at present. However, specifically designed anti-poverty programmes for generation of both self-employment and wage-employment in rural areas will continue in the Ninth Plan. These are being redesigned in order to improve their efficacy. Under the self-employment programme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) a holistic approach would be adopted with an integration of the existing sub-schemes of Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) and Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisan (SITRA) and Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY) into a single self-employment programme. There would also be a strategic shift from an individual beneficiary approach to a group or cluster approach under IRDP. To facilitate this process, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) will be formed. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) will be confined to the creation of rural infrastructure according to the felt needs of the people at the village level through panchayats. At the block and district level Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) would be the single wage-employment programme. National Social Assistance Programme which was introduced as a social security programme for the welfare of the poor households would be expanded in the Ninth Plan. Efforts would be made to bring about a greater integration between the poverty alleviation programmes and the various sectoral programmes as well as the area development programmes within the umbrella of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). The poverty

alleviation programmes will be implemented with greater participation of gram panchayats.

[Translation]

Artificial Insemination Centres

2273. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes formulated to set up artificial insemination centres to improve the breed of lactative animals during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the time by which the said schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Department has formulated a National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) which envisages bringing the entire bovine population under organised breeding programme making use of both A.I. as well as natural service. The A.I. workers will be mobile and deliver services at the doorstep of the farmers. The number of A.I. workers will also increase accordingly. Inferior quality bulls used for natural services are proposed to be replaced with good quality pedigree bulls.

(b) The Expenditure Finance Committee has already approved the proposal. Concurrence of the Planning Commission and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is required before the scheme is formally launched. These are likely to be obtained by the first quarter of 1999-2000.

[English]

Ban on Fertilizers

2274. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lift the ban imposed on use of certain fertilisers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The fertilizers included/notified in schedule I of Fertilizer