

1	2	3	4
16.	Ponnani	100.00	50.00
17.	Quilon (Kollam)	100.00	50.00
18.	Thrissoor (Trichur)	100.00	50.00
19.	Thiruvananthapuram	100.00	50.00
20.	Ottappalam (SC)	100.00	50.00
Total		1900.00	950.00

Statement-II

Details of Funds Released Under MPLADS for 1997-98 and 1998-99 as on 26.02.99 for Rajya Sabha

(Rs. /Lakhs)

Sl.No.	District Opted	Name of Rajya Sabha MP	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
The Present Sitting Member of Rajya Sabha				
1	Malappuram	Sh. Abdul Samadani	50.00	—
2.	Alappuzha	Sh. Vayalar Ravi	50.00	—
3.	Alappuzha	Sh. Ramachandran Pillai	100.00	—
4.	Emakulam	Sh. E. Balanandan	100.00	—
5.	Kollam	Sh. J. Chitranjan	100.00	50.00
6.	Thrissoor	sh. C.D. Poulse	—	50.00
7.	Kollam	Sh. M.V. Varkey Mattathil	—	100.00
8.	Malappuram	Sh. Korambayil Ahammed Haji	—	50.00
9.	Malappuram	Sh. A. Vijaya Raghavan	—	50.00

1	2	3	4	5
The Ex-Member of Rajya Sabha				
10.	Kollam	Sh. M.A. Baby	100.00	—
11.	Kozhikode	Sh. B.V. Abdulla Koya	100.00	—
12.	Pathanamthitta	Sh. Balakrishna Thennala Pillai	50.00	—
13.	Thrissoor	Sh. K. Karunakaran	—	—
14.	Kottayam	Sh. Joy Nadukkara	—	—
Total			650.00	300.00

Negative Diplomacy

2300. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Negative diplomacy doing India no good: Ackerman" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated February 1, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) At a Republic Day dinner on January 29, 1999, organised by members of the Indian-American community in Washington D.C., US Congressman Gary Ackerman, who is also the new Co-Chairman of the Congressional India Caucus made positive references to India and the contribution of Indian-Americans to Indo-US relations. He stated on this occasion that he would "resolve this evening that in a spirit of unity, you, the Indian-American community and I and the Caucus will work together with our friends from India to accomplish our common objectives". He added that what he called "negative diplomacy" must stop.

Subsequently, Mr. Ackerman visited India in February 1999. He has reportedly gone back very satisfied with the visit. He also made a very positive statement on

Indo-US relations on March 3, 1999, to House International Relations Committee.

(c) Government make all efforts and our Missions take every opportunity to make clear our national interests and concerns and this effort is also directed at the US Congress Government has a positive approach to Congressman Ackerman and members of the Congressional India Caucus and looks forward to working with them on issues of mutual interest.

Agricultural Production

2301. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to double its agricultural production and make India hunger free in 10 years;

(b) if so, whether in the Ninth Five Year Plan more thrust has been provided on the agricultural production;

(c) if so, whether any 3-pronged strategy for food security has been worked out to meet the basic food requirements of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is 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) to (e) Yes, Sir. The agricultural development strategy for the Ninth Five Year Plan is essentially based on the policy of food security announced by the Government to double the food production and make India hunger free in ten years. Food production would include not only foodgrains *i.e.* rice, wheat, coarse cereals and pulses but also major food items including oil, sugar, fruits and vegetables, egg, meat and fish. While the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying is evolving an Action Plan for achieving accelerated growth of livestock for doubling food production in the next ten years in consultation with the Planning Commission, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is preparing an Action Plan for doubling the production of foodgrains in the next 10 years which envisage promotion of cropping system approach for increasing production and productivity of cereal crops, encouraging use of green manure, greater propagation of newer location specific High Yielding Varieties as well as propagation of improved crop production technologies etc.

Nuclear Weapons

2302. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has urged the five nuclear powers to sign a treaty of not to use their nuclear weapons against each other;

(b) if so, whether India has also been asking for the same;

(c) whether China had proposed this policy in 1994 and agreed to hold a discussion on this issue;

(d) whether in view of the tests by India and Pakistan these nuclear powers are agreeable to treat India and Pakistan also as one of the nuclear States; and

(e) if so, whether this is likely to reduce tension in South Asia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) India has announced a policy of 'no-first-use' and non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states. We have also indicated our readiness to negotiate binding agreements on no-first-use, bilaterally or multilaterally.

(c) Yes Sir. In March 1994, China renewed an offer it had made on December 23, 1993, wherein it had called on the nuclear weapon State to begin negotiations, in Beijing, aimed at concluding a treaty on the no-first-use of nuclear weapons.

(d) and (e) These states have taken the view that India and Pakistan can not be treated as nuclear-weapon States because of the legal definition contained in the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). However, India's dialogue with key interlocutors, including US, France, Russia and UK, is based on the premise that India is a state possessing nuclear weapons and will maintain a minimum credible nuclear deterrent in accordance with its assessment of its national security requirements. Government believes that the validation of India's nuclear capability corrects an imbalance and thus promotes stability in the security environment, regionally and globally, and could provide an impetus for concrete progress towards nuclear disarmament.