

(b) if so, the measures taken to solve the inter-state dispute over occupying land?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Both Assam and Nagaland have alleged that the other side is attempting to occupy certain areas within its territories violating the agreement to maintain status quo till the border dispute is resolved. The representatives of the two State Governments have met in an attempt to resolve the issue.

Teen Bigha

3193. SHRI M. RAJIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Teen Bigha" in Cooch Behar has become a corridor of contention with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken to thwart the tension of the local peoples?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

3194. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry in conjunction with UNICEF have commissioned the Operation Research Group (ORG) to do a survey on mid-day meal scheme in States to assess its success;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of States where this survey was conducted;

(c) whether only 70% of the allocated foodgrains under this scheme is distributed by the FCI;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to restrict this scheme to the children below poverty line or malnourished children;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any request has been received from the State Governments to increase quota of foodgrains during the current year; and

(h) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The study has been conducted in 10 States, namely Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and west Bengal.

(c) and (d) According to information furnished by Food Corporation of India (FCI), 70.5% of the allocated foodgrains was lifted by different district agencies all over the country in 1997-98. The reasons for this include a number of enrolled children not fulfilling the attendance criterion of 80%, difficulties in transportation of foodgrains in remote and inaccessible areas as well as other operational problems.

(e) and (f) In view of the resource constraints being faced in implementation of the scheme, State Governments have been requested to comment on suggestions to restrict the beneficiaries under the scheme to the most needy children.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Appointments made in TRIFED

3195. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post-wise/group-wise and cadre-wise appointment/promotion made in TRIFED during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of SC/STs appointed/promoted during the above period;

(c) who is Head of Personnel Department TRIFED;

(d) whether he is technical or a person having qualification Requirement of Personnel Department; and