

(c) the number of Ambedkar villages electrified and provided with the drinking water, State-wise;

(d) the details of villages linked and remained unlinked by the roads, State-wise; and

(e) the time likely to be taken to make available such facilities in remaining villages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

1090. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum from the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy urging the Prime Minister to set up a Special Cell in the CBI for the effective prosecution of Union Carbide officials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) A representation was submitted on behalf of the victims to the then Hon'ble Prime Minister proposing that a special cell with adequate legal, technical and scientific competence and open to participation by representatives of survivors/organisations must be set up to supervise the prosecution of the accused corporations and officials.

Prices of LPG

1091. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a distinct possibility of further increase in the prices of Liquefied Petroleum Gas to avoid an increase in the subsidy bill;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the likely impact thereon;

(c) whether All India Gas and Petroleum Dealers have submitted a memorandum to the Government seeking among other things increase in hike of their commission to ensure fair returns for the services rendered by them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government have decided that subsidy on LPG will be reduced in phases to reach the level of 15% of the import parity price by 2001-02. The subsidy will be transferred to the fiscal budget from the year 2002 onwards.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Committee constituted to review all the issues pertaining to dealers/distributors' commission, the Government have increased the rates of Commission effective 6.11.97 as under :

Product	Unit	Commission
MS 37	Rs./KL	409
MS 93	Rs./KL	446
HSD - Slab-I	Rs./KL	222
Slab-II	Rs./KL	168
LPG packed Domestic	Rs./Cylinder (14.2 kg)	10.50
LPG packed Non-Domestic	Rs./Cylinder (19 Kg.)	14.05
LPG packed Non-Domestic	Rs./Cylinder (47.5 Kg.)	35.15

Recognition of Medical College in Sikkim

1092. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not granting recognition to the Medical College which is under construction in Sikkim; and

(b) the total amount spent on it as on date and the allocation likely to be spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The proposal of the Sikkim-Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences, for establishment of a new Medical College at Gangtok has been found to be deficient, in terms of qualifying criteria prescribed in the Regulations of the MCI, and the University Authorities and State Government have been asked to make good the deficiencies. The clearance of the proposal depends upon rectification of the deficiencies by the applicant.

(b) Since the College is proposed to be set up by the Sikkim-Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences, this Ministry has no information

about the total amount spent, and likely to be spent on this College.

[Translation]

Terrorism in North-Eastern States

1093. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any agreement with Bangladesh to deal with terrorism in North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of the factors responsible for the increase in terrorists activities in North-Eastern States; and

(c) the extent to which terrorism in this region is likely to be restrained after signing agreement with Bangladesh ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) No formal agreement has been entered into by the Government of India with the Government of Bangladesh to combat terrorism in the North Eastern States. However, institutional arrangements have been put in place with the Government of Bangladesh for dialogue and cooperation on security matters. These include : (a) meetings of Home Secretaries of the two countries; (b) establishment of Joint Working Group to examine in depth, all outstanding issues and to recommend practical measures for resolving them; (c) regular between Bangladesh Rifles and Border Security Force.

Certain States in the N.E. have varying degrees of Militancy and terrorism. The positive attitude of new Bangladesh Government is likely to lead to denial of base and transit facilities to the insurgents in Bangladesh and this is expected to improve the security scenario in the North Eastern States.

[English]

Quota of Mid-day Meal

1094. SHRI FAGGAR SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains quota allocated to States/Union Territories for mid-day meal during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of students benefited indicating the impact of the scheme and the expenditure involved;

(c) whether the entire allotted quota provided to all the districts of Madhya Pradesh every month; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor indicating the time by which it is likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The quantity of foodgrains allotted to States and UTs under the mid-day meal Scheme since its inception is as follows :

Year	(In Lakh MTs)
1995-96	7.13
1996-97	15.86
1997-98	25.68

(b) According to available information about 9.80 crore children in primary classes would be covered by the Scheme during 1998-99 for which an amount of Rs. 1092.15 crore has been provided. Several States have indicated a favourable impact on enrolment and attendance of children particularly girls and those belonging to the disadvantaged sections of the Society.

(c) and (d) Allocations of foodgrains to States indicating district-wise allocation also are made on an annual basis at the beginning of each financial year. During 1997-98, 2.22 lakh MTs of foodgrains were allotted to Madhya Pradesh under the Scheme, of which 1.61 lakh MTs was lifted from FCI depots.

[Translation]

Primary Health Centre

1095. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Primary Health Centres run by the Union Government in Bihar; and

(b) whether the Government propose to open more Primary health Centres during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The Primary Health Centres are being administered directly by the respective State Governments and not by the union Government. As per the Data Available, a wide net work of about 2209 Primary Health Centres are functioning in Bihar State.

(b) It has been ascertained that the Planning Commission has not yet received any proposal for opening new Primary Health Centres from the State Government of Bihar.