(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether an assurance was given to resume the grant by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

'(e) the time by which an assurance is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Under the scheme of assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids/ appliances (ADIP) needy disabled persons are assisted in procuring durable sophisticated and scientifically manufactured modern 'Standard' aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation. The scheme is implemented through centres run by companies registered under the Companies Act, Registered Societies, Trusts or any other institution recognised by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. ALIMCO has also been receiving assistance under the ADIP Scheme.

(c) to (e) During 1997-98 a sum of Rs. 110 lacks was released to ALIMCO under ADIP Scheme.

Loans to Backward Classes

994. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the beneficiaries getting loan from the Backward Class Finance Commission during the last three years State-wise; and

(b) the details of amount granted for the welfare of backward class during Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) None, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[English]

Assistance from W.H.O.

955. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state that the amount of assistance received from W.H.O. for various health programmes during each of the last three vears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : W.H.O. Assistance for various health programmes is provided on Biennium basis i.e. once in two years. Such assistance is received in the form of Country Budget and Extra Country Budgetary Support.

Details of such assistance allocated by W.H.O. during the last 2 Biennium are given below :-

		Biennium 1994-95 (Calende	Biennium 1996-97 or Years)
1.	Regular Country Budget	US \$ 14,785,300	US \$ 12,776,000
2.	Extra Country Budget	Us \$ 12,237,929,	US \$ 12,795,800
3.	Total	US \$ 27,023,229	US \$ 25,571,800

[Translation]

Muslims in Government Services

996. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOW-ERMENT be pleased to state:

 (a) whether the share of Muslims in Government services was 39 percent before independence and it has come down to two percent only;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether socially and educationally backward classes of Muslims are adequately represented in the Government services; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to ensure adequate representation of this backward classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The policy of the Govt. in regard to recruitment of minorities in Central Govt. Services, in general, strictly conforms to the provisions of the Constitution. The recruitment rules are framed in such a way that recruitment and selection is based on merit providing equality of opportunity so that no discrimination is made against any section of the population. Since recruitments are not made on the basis of community or religion, no data relating to recruitment religion-wise is maintained.

(c) and (d) Reservation of 27 per cent of posts under the Central Government is available for people belonging to Other Backward Classes.