

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No Sir. The Government has not received any important complaint from State Governments about the supply of poor quality food items such as wheat, rice and sugar to consumers through fair price shops in the last few months.

(b) Government has already taken a number of steps to provide good quality wheat, rice and sugar to the consumers through fair price shops and to improve the PDS. These are as follows :

- (i) Only "A" and "B" category foodgrains (wheat and rice) conforming to Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA) standards and good quality sugar conforming to Indian Sugar Standard are issued to states/UTs for distribution through fair price shops under PDS.
- (ii) The quality of the foodgrains as well as sugar issued for PDS is thoroughly checked by the officers of the State Governments or their representatives at the time of receipt from F.C.I. depots.
- (iii) Sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are supplied by FCI to State Governments so that these may be displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of consumers for comparing the quality.
- (iv) Inspection of fair price shops are conducted by the officers of the State Governments as well as Ministry of Food, Government of India to check the quality of foodgrains. Immediate remedial measures are taken with FCI or concerned State Governments wherever the quality is found not conforming to prescribed standards.
- (v) Good quality Sugar Conforming to Indian Sugar Standards is issued to State Governments and U.Ts. under P.D.S. and the quality of the sugar is ensured till the time of delivery by sugar factories.
- (vi) Periodical inspection of stocks of sugar factories is also conducted to ensure that the bags marked as standard sugar actually contain the same.
- (vii) Streamlining the Public Distribution System with its focus on the poor is under consideration of the Government.

Production of Edible Oil

903. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to take

some fresh measures to increase edible oil production in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :
(a) and (b). Government has taken a number of measures to increase Edible Oil Production from indigenous sources. they relate to (i) intensification of efforts for implementation of Oilseed Production Programme area expansion through sequential cropping, intercropping, (ii) replacement of low economic crop, (iii) increase in productivity by providing various services inputs, (iv) assistance for production and distribution of seeds, (v) distribution of mini kits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements and chemicals etc. In addition, front line and general demonstrations are conducted on farmers, fields to transfer the production technology. Fiscal incentives for increased exploitation of oils from non-conventional sources also being provided.

[Translation]

National Commission for Scavengers

904. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the pattern of composition of the National Commission for Scavengers alongwith the budgetary allocation made for them for the current financial year;

(b) the plan outlay for the currnet financial year for rehabilitation of scavengers;

(c) the amount released and actually utilised out of it so far in Delhi;

(d) the estimated number of scavengers in Delhi alongwith the number of scanvenger families rehabilitated so far;

(e) the total amount spent for this purpose;

(f) whether the target fixed have been achieved in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has seven members including Chairperson and Vice-Chirperson. The Budgetary allocation for the Commission during the current financial year is Rs. 70.0 lakhs.

(b) The Budget allocation for the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers for the current year is Rs. 90 crores.

(c) The Government of India has not released any Central assistance during the current year to the Government of Delhi.

(d) 17,420 scavengers have been identified in Delhi. 1829 scavengers have been rehabilitated upto 31.3.96.

(e) The Government of Delhi has spent a sum of Rs. 224.92 lakh for training and rehabilitation of scavengers.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Details of target set and actual achievement for training and rehabilitation is as under :

Year	Training		Rehabilitation	
	Target	Actual Achievement	Target	Actual Achievement
1992-93	-	-	1000	505
1993-94	100	13	3000	196
1994-95	100	121	3000	303
1995-96	100	44	3000	825

(h) The shortfalls in the achievement of target set have been attributed by the Government of Delhi primarily to the non-cooperation of participating banks and indifference evinced by the targetted group.

[English]

Cellular Phone Service

905. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities in which Cellular phones are affordable at present, State-wise and particularly in Maharashtra; and

(b) the projects in hand at present including the names of the cities which are going to be benefited to make the services affordable during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) At present, the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service is available in the four metro cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The licences have also been awarded for operation of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in 16 Territorial Telecom Circles including Maharashtra. The names of the Circles and the Companies who have been awarded licenses and letters of intent are shown in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The licences as given in the Statement have taken up the projects in providing the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service in their respective service areas of Telecom Circles. The service is likely to be made available in most of the capital cities and other large cities of the various states in the country during the next two financial years.

STATEMENT

Licenses and LOIs issued for Cellular Mobile Telephone Services in Territorial Telecom Circles.

Circle	Name of the Company
Assam	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Andhra Pradesh	J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
Andhra Pradesh	Tata Communications Pvt. Ltd.
Bihar	Reliance Telecom
Bihar	*Koshika Telecom
Gujarat	Birla Communications Ltd.
Gujarat	Fascel Ltd.
Haryana	Escotel Mobile Comm. Pvt. Ltd.
Haryana	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.
Himachal Pradesh	Bharti Telenet Ltd.
Himachal Pradesh	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Karnataka	*Modicom Network Pvt. Ltd.
Karnataka	*J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
Kerala	Escotel Mobile Comm. Pvt. Ltd.
Kerala	US West BPL Cellular
Madhya Pradesh	Cellular Communication India Ltd.
Madhya Pradesh	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Maharashtra	Birla Communications Ltd.
Maharashtra	US West BPL Cellular
North East	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
North East	Hexacom India Ltd.
Orissa	Koshika Telecom
Orissa	Reliance Telecom Ltd.
Punjab	J.T. Mobiles Ltd.
Punjab	*Modicom Network Pvt. Ltd.
Rajasthan	*Hexacom India Ltd.
Rajasthan	*Aircel Digilink India Ltd.
Tamil Nadu	US West BPL
Tamil Nadu	*Hinduja HCL S. Comm. Pvt. Ltd.
UP (West)	Escotel Mobile Communication Ltd.
UP (West)	Koshika Telecom
UP (East)	Koshika Telecom
UP (East)	Aircel Digilink India Ltd.
West Bengal	Reliance Telecom Ltd.

Note : "1" denotes that Letters of Intent issued are yet to be converted into Licenses.