

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) and (b) Statement showing State-wise/UTs area of surplus land vested with the State since inception till March, 1997 and area distributed to the rural poor during 1995-96 and 1996-97 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Land and its management is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government plays an advisory and coordinative role. However, all possible measures are being taken in association with the concerned State Governments to improve the access of land to the landless rural poor.

Statement

| Sl. No. | States/UTs | Area Vested | Area Distributed | |
|---------|----------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|
| | | | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 636237 | 10773 | 3427 |
| 2. | Assam | 575837 | 3228 | 3163 |
| 3. | Bihar | 416529 | 5816 | 1841 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 158046 | 1530 | 1892 |
| 5. | Haryana | 85348 | 189 | 534 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 281652 | - | - |
| 7. | Jammu & Kashmir | 450000 | - | - |
| 8. | Karnataka | 155026 | - | 937 |
| 9. | Kerala | 94800 | 171 | 185 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 299718 | 85 | 280 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 664352 | 471 | 421 |
| 12. | Manipur | 1685 | - | - |
| 13. | Orissa | 165726 | 833 | 958 |
| 14. | Punjab | 105151 | 50 | 277 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 557879 | 8898 | 3444 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 171114 | 3354 | 3173 |
| 17. | Tripura | 1944 | - | - |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 527036 | 5624 | 4870 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 1224771 | 10788 | - |
| 20. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 9305 | 76 | - |
| 21. | Delhi | 394 | - | - |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 1160 | - | - |
| Total | | 6583710 | 51886 | 25402 |

[Translation]

Delivery of Bills

3648. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "250 bijli bill gharon ki bajay sadakon par pade mile" appearing in the *Dainik Jagran* dated June 3, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The postman at fault has been transferred from Vasundhara Enclave Post Office and charge-sheeted.

(d) The Delhi Circle is keeping a strict watch over the delivery staff to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

[English]

Employment Schemes in Orissa

3649. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented in Orissa presently for creating employment opportunities to rural people in the state; and

(b) the funds allocated to the State for this purpose during each of last three years and the achievements made thereunder, scheme-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), are the major employment schemes being implemented presently in the rural areas of the country including the State of Orissa. The aims of those schemes are to generate self employment by providing financial assistance for income generating assets and to develop technical skill to the rural poor under IRDP and wage employment under JRY & EAS to the rural poor families to cross the poverty line & for betterment of their lives.