

issued under this scheme, which covers around 106 lakh families.

(c) The total subsidy borne by the State Government was Rs. 368.5 crores in 1990-91 and is estimated at about Rs. 523 crores in the year 1991-92.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Procurement of Foodgrains for Central Pool

166. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched a concerted and determined drive during the harvest season to procure the "Maximum possible" food-grains for the Central Pool so that the Government can effectively intervene as a market force during the lean months to check the rise in prices of essential commodities;

(b) if so, whether all the States and Union Territories had been advised to procure maximum foodgrains for the Central Pool; sufficient stocks of foodgrains;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government is keen on having sufficient stocks of food grains;

(d) the efforts being made by both Union and States to procure food-grains for the Central pool; and

(e) if so, the quantum so far procured and the target fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN
GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to less and scanty rain-fall during the monsoon season of 1990-91 and consequent apprehended loss in Kharif production to some extent, all efforts have been made in the Food Ministry of maximise procurement of Kharif foodgrains. Before the commencement of the procurement season, a meeting of State Food Secretaries was held and Union Food Secretary emphasised the need to take all steps to maximise procurement. States were also exhorted to reach certain levels in respect of procurement of paddy and levy rice. Stress was also laid on procurement of paddy, especially in large paddy producing States like Orissa, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, where procurement of paddy can be increased if a larger number of agencies are involved and price support operations are extended in far flung and interior areas. Food Corporation of India has also made all necessary arrangements to make the procurement drive a success by ensuring credit availability, availability of gunny bags, quick transportation of foodgrains etc.

(e) As the sale of foodgrains by the farmers to the Central Pool is voluntary and the farmer is free to sell their produce on prices higher than the minimum support price if he is able to get it, it is not really feasible to lay down any targets. The procurement of rice, including paddy in terms of rice, has no targets. The procurement of rice, 32.45 lakh tonnes till 15th November, 1991 during the current kharif marketing season 1991-92.

Setting up of Industries by Foreign Industrial Units

167. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether after announcement of new industrial policy, foreign industrial units have shown keen interest in investing in India:

(b) if so, whether 20 British firms had asked certain clarifications;

(c) the other countries who have shown keen interest in setting up industrial units in the country; and

(d) the latest position as to how many foreign firms have been allowed to start their units in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). The new Industrial policy announced by the Government in July, 1991 have generated a lot of interest in foreign industrial units in investing in India. Foreign firms of various countries continue to seek additional information or clarifications on the new Industrial policy at various forums. There is increased interest in investing in India. A statement indicating country-wise break up of number of foreign collaboration approvals issued after the announcement of the new Industrial Policy is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

<i>Name of the Country</i>		<i>No. of Foreign Collaboration proposals approved</i>
<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>
1.	Australia	1
2.	Austria	2
3.	Belgium	3
4.	Brazil	1
5.	Canada	4
6.	Czechoslovakia	1
7.	Denmark	3
8.	Finland	2
9.	France	8
10.	Germany	40
11.	Hongkong	2
12.	Italy	20
13.	Japan	17

<i>Name of the Country</i>		<i>No. of Foreign Collaboration proposals approved</i>
<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>
14.	Korea(South)	3
15.	Netherlands	9
16.	Poland	2
17.	Scotland	1
18.	Singapore	4
19.	Spain	2
20.	Saudi Arabia	1
21.	Sweden	9
22.	Switzerland	13
23.	Taiwan	2
24.	U.K.	43
25.	U.S.A.	56
26.	U.S.S.R.	5
Total:		254

**Public Distribution System fuelling
inflation**

169. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the Government are aware
of the views expressed by the Indian Institute
of Public Administration in a paper entitled
the Public Distribution System fuelling infla-
tion;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government
thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Govern-
ment in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-
DIN AHMED):

(a) to (c). Different views have been
expressed by various academicians, institu-
tions about the role of Public Distribution
System (PDS). PDS supplies are supple-
mental in nature, and are envisaged, *inter
alia*, as an anti-inflationary measure. The