GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AGRICULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5818 ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000 DISTRIBUTION OF LAND SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have initiated action to distribute vacant Government Landsto the landless families of SCs/STs during 1991-92 as recommended by Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee;
- (b) if so, furnish the total amount of funds demanded by the Ministry of Agriculture in the Eighth Five Year Plan for procurement and distribution of Land for the families belonging to the SCs/STs and the funds allocated by the Planning Commission for this purpose and percentage thereof as compared to the total allocations to the Ministry;
- (c) the funds allocated, released and utilised for the above purpose in the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Annual Plans of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97); and
- (d) the reasons for not implementing the above recommendations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Agriculture is primarily responsible for sustainable agriculture production. Through implementation of various schemes, the Ministry promotes agricultural development, supports soil and water conservation schemes towards agricultural expansion and consolidation, promotes expansion and strengthening of agricultural infrastructure. These activities benefit farmers of all categories including SC/ST.

Land and its management is the responsibility of the respective State Governments vide Entry No. 18 List-II – (State List) of VIIth Schedule to the Constitution. The Central Government's role is coordinating and advisory only. Ministry of Rural Development monitors the distribution of ceiling surplus land, Bhoodan Land and Government Wastelands. The distribution of vacant Government lands is not monitored by the Ministry of Rural Development.

The distribution of above does not involve any financial commitments on the part of Central Government. The Planning Commission has not allotted any fund for procurement and distribution of land for the families belonging to SCs/STs.