

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Orissa	95	38	114	34	110	33
Punjab	38	19	58	24	62	14
Rajasthan	214	182	513	211	392	82
Sikkim	5	-	5	1	10	-
Tamil Nadu	180	58	195	85	206	99
Tripura	8	1	11	2	10	1
Uttar Pradesh	970	500	1071	499	1009	475
West Bengal	179	53	177	97	118	60
Andaman and Nicobar	11	5	3	2	-	-
Chandigarh	23	7	17	9	24	9
Delhi	479	208	553	298	565	254
Daman	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lakshdweep	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pondicherry	2	-	5	2	-	-

[English]

Procurement of Wheat

1755 DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the procurement target for wheat set up by the Government has been severely upset with trends showing a decline of 20 percent in procurement during the current rabi season;

(b) if so, whether the Government were confident of getting the target of 13 million tonnes;

(c) if so, the main reasons for the shortfall; and

(d) the extent to which the shortfall of wheat has been reported from the States so far?

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

(a) to (d) Since procurement of wheat for Central Food under minimum support scheme is totally on a voluntary basis, no targets in this regard are fixed by the Ministry.

A quantity of 81.35 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured upto 1.7.1996 during the current Rabi Marketing season 1996-97 as compared with 122.05 lakh tonnes procured during the corresponding period last season.

The procurement of wheat declined mainly due to the following factors :

- (i) Lesser production and lesser arrival of wheat in the market in crop year 1995-96 as compared to 1994-95.
- (ii) Purchase of 10% of the market arrivals of wheat by the trade as compared with only 6% in the previous season.

Proposal to Double AI Fleet

1756. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India propose to double its fleet in the next few years;

(b) if so, the details of the plans;

(c) whether it is a fact that Air India plans to meet its entire fund requirement for fleet expansion through external commercial borrowings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d) Air India plans to continue the renewal and expansion of its fleet of aircraft during the ninth plan period. To meet the requirements of funds for growth, Air India will undertake capital restructuring at an appropriate stage. Some funds will be arranged through external commercial borrowings also.

Delhi-Silchar Flight

1757. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Airlines is operating a daily flight between Delhi and Silchar;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start a daily flight between these cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is inadequate passenger demand between Delhi and Silchar to warrant the introduction of a daily flight on this sector.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Public Distribution System

1758. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government regarding exclusion of Income Tax payers from the public distribution system.

(b) if so, the salient features thereof.

(c) whether the Government have received any memoranda or complaints in this regard.

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

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

(a) to (e). The Government proposes to streamline the Public Distribution System (PDS) with its focus on the poor. The details are being worked out in consultation with the States/UTs and in the light of views that may be received on the subject.

[English]

Labour Courts in Assam

1759 DR ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Labour Courts with their locations functioning in Assam;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such courts in every district of the State in view of the huge labour force in the State, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) As per the information received from the Government of Assam there are two Labour Courts one each at Guwahati and Dibrugarh, are functioning in the State of Assam.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Meeting of Trade Unions with P.M.

1760. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether representatives of various Trade Unions in the country met the Prime Minister recently;

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting, and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The Prime Minister met representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations on 24th June, 1996 to hear the views of the Trade Unions on matters concerning the workers such as (i) labour protection and social security for agricultural labour, (ii) Uniform minimum wage, (iii) recognition of trade unions based on secret ballot, (iv) elimination of child labour, (v) amendments to Industrial Disputes and Trade Union Acts etc. The trade union leaders stressed the need for creating a proper and congenial atmosphere for maintaining industrial harmony in the country. They laid emphasis on taking measures for protection and generation of employment and employment benefits, review of the functioning of BIFR, revival of NTC mills, comprehensive legislation for agricultural workers, comprehensive measures for elimination of child labour etc. The suggestions made by the Trade Union Leaders have been noted and steps have been taken for more effective enforcement of labour welfare measures, for intensification of labour inspections and strengthening of the labour enforcement machinery.

Revision of Scheme for Foreign Tourists

1761 SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is planning to revise the scheme for foreign tourists.

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) the highlights of the proposed scheme, and

(d) the foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d). With a view to attracting foreign tourists to India, the Department of Tourism adopts an overseas marketing strategy which is aimed at bringing maximum number of foreign tourists to the country. This is done by way of identifying thrust markets as also new segments.

The marketing strategy is flexible and takes into account changes taking place in the market situation.