

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have conducted any inquiry regarding the illegal cutting of the teak wood trees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the persons found involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the concerned State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Total Prohibition

3721. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose total prohibition in the country;

(b) if so, when a meeting of Chief Ministers of all the States/UTs is likely to be held in this regard;

(c) whether the revenue loss be considered there at; and

(d) the details of other issues proposed to be discussed?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No Sir, there is no such proposal.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Torture of Children

3722. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned "Children Routinely Tortured In India" appearing in Hindustan Times, dated November 14, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the reported figures regarding the deaths of children in the police custody are correct; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Facts are being ascertained. The requisite information will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Trafficking of Foreign Currency

3723. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have detected illegal

trafficking of foreign currency in Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of foreign currency seized State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the illegal trafficking of foreign currency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Supply of Wheat and Other Commodities

3724. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR :  
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :  
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :  
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state

(a) whether the Governments of Maharashtra and Kerala had demanded increase in allocation of wheat and other commodities for distribution through the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conceded the demand of the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to concede the demands?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir Requests have been received from State Governments including Maharashtra and Kerala for additional allocations. Allocation of Public Distribution System (PDS) items are made to States/UTs on month to month basis keeping in view the demand received from various States/UTs, their relative needs, stocks in the Central Pool, seasonal availability and offtake trends, etc.

Government of Maharashtra has requested for increase in their monthly sugar quota from 33550 MTs to 43157.3 MTs, rice and wheat at one lakh MTs and 1.2 lakh MTs respectively. While monthly allocation of rice of Maharashtra continues at 71,500 MTs., the monthly allocation of wheat has been increased from 80,000 MTs to 85,000 MTs for January, 1997. Kerala Government have demanded for increase in monthly quota of foodgrains from 1,50,000 MTs of rice and 50,000 MTs of wheat to 1,50,000 MTs of rice and 60,000 MTs of wheat. However, the allocation of foodgrains for

Kerala for November, 1996 to January, 1997 is as follows :

Month	Quantity*Allotted (In MTs)	
	Rice	Wheat
Nov. 96	1,55,000	45,000
Dec. 96	1,58,000	42,000
Jan. 97	1,58,000	40,500

Levy sugar is being allocated from 1.1.1996 on uniform norm ensuring 425 grams per capital availability as per population as on 1.1.1991. In view of better availability of sugar, festival quota for the year 1996 has been doubled and adhoc increase of 10% in the monthly levy quota for the month of December, 1996 has also been made to all the States, including Maharashtra and Kerala.

An additional quantity 15,275 MTs and 4,862 MTs of kerosene has been allocated to Maharashtra and Kerala during 1996-97 over the last year.

#### Jails in the Country

3725. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of jails in the country alongwith their capacity of accommodating the prisoners;

(b) the number of prisoners accommodated in jails at present state-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make the jails more accommodating and improve the poor living condition thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Statement I and II containing the requisite information are enclosed.

(c) 'Prisons' being a State subject as per entry 4 of List-II State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, it is primarily for the State Governments to deal with any matter relating to the administration of prisons according to their rules, regulations, Jail Manuals, etc. However, the Government of India provides financial assistance under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in improving prison infrastructure and living conditions of prisoners. Besides, the Tenth Finance Commission has also recommended financial assistance to the State Governments for repair and renovation of jail buildings and for providing medical facilities in jails.

#### STATEMENT-I

Prison Statistics as on 30-6-1996

Name of State	No. of Prisons	Prison capacity	Prison Population
1. Andhra Pradesh	115	9338	12595*
2. Bihar	76	26238	36797*
3. Goa	05	331	276
4. Gujarat	22	5263	8136
5. Haryana	19	3775	6019
6. Himachal Pradesh	12	566	414*
7. Jammu and Kashmir	15	2060	2168
8. Karnataka	96	7718	7097
9. Kerala	40	5659	4813
10. Madhya Pradesh	101	17720	27309*
11. Maharashtra	208	18989	21238
12. Orissa	66	7386	8821*
13. Punjab	27	9569	7942
14. Rajasthan	93	8838	7727*
15. Tamil Nadu	131	18228	13659
16. Uttar Pradesh	66	30395	35964*
17. West Bengal	52	18763	10111

#### STATEMENT-II

Prison Statistics as on 30-6-1996

Name of the State	No. of Prisons	Prison capacity	Prison Population
<b>B. North East</b>			
18. Arunachal Pradesh	01	-	303*
19. Assam	27	6216	4707
20. Manipur	05	1267	711
21. Meghalaya	04	562	401
22. Mizoram	06	563	619*
23. Nagaland	09	1160	470*
24. Sikkim	02	100	66
25. Tripura	11	743	567*
<b>C. UTs.</b>			
26. Delhi	05	3237	8703
27. A and N	04	264	178
28. Chandigarh	01	850	277
29. D.N. Haveli	01	40	40*
30. Daman and Diu	02	140	72
31. Lakshadweep	03	12	-
32. Pondicherry	04	315	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>1229</b>	<b>205771</b>	<b>228298</b>

\* (As on 31-12-1995)