

**Unemployment of Agriculture  
Diploma/Degree Holders**

3259. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Agriculture Colleges/Institutions in the country, State-wise break up and their intake courses in Agriculture and related discipline as on 31.3.97 with percentage of growth during the last three years;

(b) whether a large number of diploma holders/ graduates and post graduates continue to face unemployment due to less number of jobs available;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have worked out any action plan for effective utilisation of trained manpower under the new Agricultural policy during the 9th plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

**Standing Committee of Inter-State Council**

3260. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council finalised a Draft for the States;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Draft;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has suggested certain amendments to the said Draft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member is seeking information regarding the consensus arrived at in the four meetings of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council on the following issues:—

- (i) Alternative Scheme of Devolution of Share in Central Taxes to States.
- (ii) Amendments to article 356 of the Constitution.
- (iii) Centre State Financial Relations (Chapter X of the Sarkaria Commission's Report).

The Standing Committee had arrived at the following consensus in respect of Item No. (i):—

(a) (i) 26% of the gross proceeds of all Central Taxes (excluding Stamp Duty, Excise Duty on Medicinal and Toilet Preparations, Central Sales Tax, Consignment Tax and Surcharge) will be assigned to the States in lieu for the existing share in Income-Tax and Basic/Special Excise Duties and the grants in lieu of Tax on Railway Passenger fares.

(ii) In addition, 3% of gross proceeds of all Central Taxes (excluding Stamp Duty, Excise Duty on Medicinal and Toilet Preparations, Central Sales Tax, Consignment Tax and Surcharge) is to be assigned to the States in lieu of the existing share in additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales tax on Tobacco, Cotton and Sugar. These three items may continue to be exempt from Sales Tax and additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax on these items may be merged with the Basic Excise Duties.

(b) The Alternative Scheme of Devolution of Share in Central Taxes to the States would be implemented with effect from 1.4.1996.

(c) The Scheme would be reviewed during the current Financial Year itself with a view to improving the share of the States.

The above Scheme was endorsed by the Inter-State Council in its meeting held on 17.7.1997. The Ministry of Finance has been requested to take further appropriate action.

So far as the amendment of article 356 of the Constitution of India is concerned, the Standing Committee could not arrive at a consensus. The main points of divergence were as follows:—

- (i) Whether the Union Government can issue show cause notice in exceptional circumstances without the Governor's report.
- (ii) Need for provision to invoke article 356 without notice if the State Government encourages action posing threat to:
  - (a) Secular fabric of society;
  - (b) National security and integrity.
- (iii) Whether approval of Parliament should precede or follow the proclamation.
- (iv) Whether approval should be with simple or two-thirds majority.

The matter was placed before the Inter-State Council in its meeting held on 17.7.1997 for further consideration. There was also no consensus in this meeting in regard to the amendment of article 356.