GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2991 ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009 OPIUM PRODUCTION Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise production capacity of opium;

(b) whether the Union Government has plans to enhance/ reduce the production of opium in the country;and

(c) if so, the details of arrangement made/ proposed to be made in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) The production capacity of opium in a State depends on the number of cultivators licenced, the number of cultivators who actually cultivate and harvest, the extent of area licenced, the extent of area harvested and the average yield per hectare. The quantity of opium produced in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, during the last three crop years is as under:

S.No, Name of State Quantity of Opium Produced at 70 Consistency during the crop year (in MT)

2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 (Provisional) (Provisional)

1 Madhya Pradesh 207.00 103.000 298.000 2 Rajasthan 150.000 73.000 211.000 3 Uttar Pradesh 0.046 0.199 0.078 Total 357.046 176.199 509.078

(b) & (c) Decisions regarding increasing/ reducing production of opium in the country will be taken at the time of notifying the General Licencing Conditions which are likely to be finalized by the end of September 2009.