

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The landed cost of the Australian wheat at Mumbai is Rs. 7371/- PMT.

(b) The ports are protected areas having their own security setup. The foodgrains discharged from the vessels are handled by the stevedoring/handling contractors appointed by FCI from port to the designated depots of FCI. FCI has its own security arrangements at the depots for safe custody of foodgrains. However, at vulnerable places assistance of the State Police/ Administration is taken to ensure that no theft or pilferage occurs at the ports.

Whenever stocks are stored in hired godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporation (SWC), these are insured by the CWC/SWC's. In addition, they also have watch and wards staff of their own as per norms.

Employment Target

3928. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for giving employment during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) the number of persons actually given employment;

(c) the reason for not achieving the target;

(d) the steps taken to meet the target; and

(e) the number of persons registered with the employment exchanges as on date alongwith the comparative figures of the proceeding three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Eighth Five Year Plan envisaged 8 to 9 million annual addition in employment opportunities during the period 1992-93 to 1996-97 i.e. at the rate of 2.6 to 2.8% per annum. The addition to employment during 1987-88 to 1993-94 was 43.91 million on Usual Principal Status basis implying an average rate of growth of 2.37% per annum, indicating an average addition of about 7.3 million employment opportunities per annum.

(c) and (d) Achievement of rate of growth of employment is crucially dependent on the overall growth in the economy and sectoral and sub sectoral pattern of growth. The rate of growth of employment observed during 1987-88 to 1993-94 covers only the initial two years of the Eighth Plan. During this period, sectors like Manufacturing, Mining & Quarrying., Social & Personal Services registered a lower growth than the respective targets in the Eighth Plan. Ninth Plan approach envisages adequate productive employment.

(e) The number of job-seekers, all of whom need not necessarily be unemployed, who were on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges as on 31st March, 1998 was 39.2 million. The number of job-seekers at the end of 1995, 1996 & 1997 were of the order of 36.7, 37.4 & 39.1 million respectively.

Financial Assistance for Tackling Extremist Activities

3929. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a project report with a request to provide financial assistance for extremist activities in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government to sanction and release the amount so demanded?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Project Report, containing an Action Plan, has been prepared by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, amounting to Rs. 1299.17 crores for undertaking action to strengthen and upgrade the law and order machinery, providing a responsive administration, intensification of developmental activities in the Tribal areas and Communication campaign against extremists, over a period of three years. The Plan was sent to the Planning Commission on 3.12.1997 with the request to earmark separate funds for this purpose.

[Translation]

Compensation for acquired land for fencing

3930. SHRI SHANKAR PANNU :
COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agricultural land of farmers of Western Rajasthan was acquired at the time of barbed wire fencing along Indo-Pak Border;

(b) if so, whether the poor farmers whose land was acquired have not yet been paid compensation so far;

(c) if so, the time by which the payment of compensation to such poor farmers of Barmer, Ganganagar and Jaisalmer districts is likely to be made; and

(d) if not, the details of the proposed measures to be taken to compensate the loss of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Tunnel by Pakistani Smugglers

3931. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistani smugglers have constructed any long tunnel in the Indian territory this year;

(b) if so, the length and width of the tunnel;

(c) whether the Government have made any efforts to counter such activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. On 23.1.1998, a 228 feet long tunnel of 2 feet diameter was detected by BSF troops near B.P. No. 59/3 and 59/4 near Ajnala, Amritsar. The area is full of sarkanda plants and the tunnel was dug underneath the fencing from Pakistan side but the same was detected before the mouth of tunnel on Indian side could be opened. An extensive search of the entire area was carried out. Special operations by day and night, have been carried out to detect such activities and the troops have been briefed to remain extra vigilant so as to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future.

Appointment of Contractors

3932. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that security staff in Ministries and limited companies is appointed through contractors on large scale and the contractors are paying only 50% of the total salary received from Ministries and companies to the employees;

(b) whether there is any proposal to stop such practice;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to check such exploitation of labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Economic Package to Assam

3933. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received demands for a special Economic package for development of areas of Barpeta in Assam for Agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the amount demanded for this economic package; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Welfare of Handicapped and Destitute Children

3934. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government disburses money to Non-Government Institutions for the welfare of people;

(b) if so, the Scheme-wise details of the amount disbursed during 1996-97 in each State;

(c) the details of schemes run for handicapped and destitute children; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to prevent corruptions in the Non-Government institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Statements showing amounts released to Non-Governmental Organisations during 1996-97. State-wise, for implementation of various schemes, including schemes for handicapped and street children are attached as Statements I to IX.

(d) A Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) is approved for grant-in-aid under the schemes of the Ministry on the basis of an inspection carried out by the State Government official and recommended by the concerned Department of the State Government.

The inspection report from the State Government and/or Central/State agencies once a year is also necessary before the second instalment of grant is released to Non-Governmental Organisations.