

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Gutka has not been banned.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### Population Growth

959. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the targetted population growth has been achieved;

(b) the states where no achievements have been observed so far and pricing behind the target or giving no importance in this regard;

(c) whether the Government are considering to launch any incentive scheme under this programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The long-term Demographic Goal for the Country as laid down in the National Health Policy (1983), is to achieve Annual Natural Growth Rate of 1.2% by 2000 A.D. The States/UTs registering a natural growth of population below 1.2% as per sample Registration System 1996 are i) Tamil Nadu, ii) Kerala, iii) Goa, iv) Pondicherry and v) Tripura.

(b) According to the findings of the Sample Registration System 1996, Annual Natural Growth Rate of Population has declined to 1.85% in 1996 from 1.93% in 1995. This is a substantially large decline in the Annual Growth Rate of Population in one year. Such substantial decline has been found in all major states except Bihar.

(c) and (d) Any Scheme involving meaningfully large Incentives will require large resources, because of the size of the country. Government has not so far approved any Incentive Scheme.

#### German Project in Karnataka

960. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any German Project for improving facilities in Hospitals in Karnataka has been cleared;

(b) if so, the details of Hospitals to be taken up under the proposed project; and

(c) the amount released or proposed to be released during 1988-89 for Karnataka under the said project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 26 Hospitals are proposed to be taken up under the Project, which includes 12 Hospitals in Bellary District and 14 Hospitals in Raichur and Koppal Districts.

(c) Rs. 40 crores have been earmarked for implementation of Programmes under this Project, during the year 1998-99.

[Translation]

#### Health Services in Rural Areas

961. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM :  
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide proper health services in the entire country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to develop infrastructural facilities in view of providing adequate health care in the rural areas during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) the problem identified and programmes proposed to be implemented to achieve the said objectives. State-wise; and

(f) the manner in which the Government propose to complete this programme in view of all such constraints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A Network of health facilities comprising 136339 Sub-Centres, 220.10 Primary Health Centres and 2622 Community Health Centres (as on 30.6.1997) have been set up throughout the Country under the Minimum Needs Programme. In addition, there are 2823 Hospitals and 21632 Dispensaries established under the Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Besides the Government of India has also implementing National Health Programmes related to Malaria, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Blindness, Iodine Deficiency disorders, Reproductive Health Cadre, Cancer, etc.

(c) and (d) Creating Establishing Infrastructure facilities for providing health care in Rural Areas in the responsibility of the State Governments.

(e) and (f) Paucity of fund is the main constraint in establishing health infrastructure as per norms. Therefore funds are being obtained from external agencies, wherever possible.

[English]

#### Exclusion of Income Tax Payers from PDS

962. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to exclude Income Tax payers from the purview of Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the time by which this decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Functioning of Police

963. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to change the functioning of Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (c) As "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is essentially for the State Governments to bring about changes in the functioning of their respective Police forces. Within the Constitutional limitations, however, the Central Government has been writing to the States emphasis in the need to bring about such changes. The stress laid by the Central Government has been on modification of the existing recruitment and training practices in the States and modernisation of their intelligence, weaponry and communication systems in order to keep pace with times. Apart from advisories, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the States through its Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces as well as by releasing funds on the basis of recommendations of the Finance Commission. Improvement in the Police functioning is a continuous process and the Central Government is committed to ensure that the

State Government get all assistance to improve the policing in the country.

#### Adequate Power to National Commission for SC/ST

964. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government empowered the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to ensure Dalits of their rights and social justice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a memorandum has been issued assigning the duties of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the Department of Personnel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Section 2 Clause 5 Sub-Clause (a) of the Constitution (65th Amendment) Act empowers the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution or under any other law. For this purpose under Section 2 clause 8 of the Act the Commission has all the powers of a Civil Court trying a Suit.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Freedom Fighters of Telengana

965. SHRI M. RAJIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee under the Chairmanship of Ch. Rajeshwara Rao appointed to recommend the names of the Freedom Fighters of Telengana Region, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; District-wise; and

(c) the time by which the pension to those recommended freedom fighters is likely to be granted?