Written Answers

	1	2
8.	Meghalaya	1
9.	Punjab	5
10.	Rajasthan	2
11.	Sikkim	1
12.	Tripura	2
13.	Lakshadweep (Union Territory)	1

(b) No norms or conditions are laid down for raising of these Bns. as such. The request of States to raise IR Bns. is considered keeping in mind the law and order needs and availability of resources.

Indians in Pakistani Jails

4916. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT: SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Pakistani nationals released and sent back to Pakistan during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indians are languishing in Pakistani jails; and
 - (c) if so, the steps taken for their repatriation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) According to the available information, 234 Pakistani nationals were released and sent back to Pakistan since 1995.

- (b) According to the available information, 1368 Indian nationals are under datention in Pakistani jails.
- (c) The issue of release and repatriation of Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan has been repeatedly

taken up with Government of Pakistan. After high level meetings between the two countries, it was decided in 1997 that concerned authorities of both countries would expedite the release of civilian prisoners belonging to either side. Government of India has been making coninuous efforts for the early release and repatriation of Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan. Since 1991, 740 Indian prisoners have been released and repatriated from Pakistan to India.

[Translation]

Procurement Centres in Bihar

4917. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of procurement of paddy, rice and wheat in Bihar during each of the last three years and till March, 1998;
- (b) the number of procurement centres opened and the expenditure incurred thereon during the said period location-wise;
- (c) the extent of surplus foodgrains in the States at present; and
- (d) the schemes formulated for future procurement of foodgrains in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Quantities of paddy, rice and wheat procured in Bihar are as under:

(in lakh tonnes)

Marketing	Paddy	Rice	Wheat
Season			
1995-96	Neg.	Nit	Neg.
1996-97	Neg.	Nii	Nii
1997-98	0.25	0.06	Neg.
1998-99	_		Neg.

(Neg. : Below 500 tonnes)