

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Total number of scavengers identified in the States is 5,77,228 and according to the information available with this Ministry, approximately 2,66,723 scavengers are yet to be rehabilitated.

(d) The Government has established a National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) to provide financial assistance to scavengers to take up projects as per lending guidelines of this Corporation. A National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers is in operation since March, 1992. The Government have also set up a Statutory National Commission for Safai Karamcharis. A Low-cost sanitation scheme for liberation of scavengers by conversion of existing dry latrines into sanitary latrines and construction of new Sanitary latrines where no latrines exist, is being implemented by Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment.

[Translation]

Sugar Mills in Bihar

346. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sugar mills lying closed under Sugar Corporation in Bihar at present;
- (b) the reasons for their closure;
- (c) whether the reports from sugar Technology Mission in regard to such two closed mills;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to re-start these closed sugar mills.
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these mills are likely to be started; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) 15 sugar mills under the Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. are at present lying closed.

- (b) Closure of mills could be due to variety of

factors, such as inadequate cane availability, uneconomical size, old age and bad condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial incompetence, excessively high cane price not commensurate with sales realisation and various other factors.

(c) to (f) The Sugar Technology Mission (STM) has prepared project reports on rehabilitation and optimisation of Motipur unit and on resuscitation of Goraul unit of Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. Since these units belong to Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. an undertaking of Bihar Government, action regarding re-opening of these mills is required to be taken by the Corporation State Government.

[English]

FCI Owned/Hired Godowns

347. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Food Corporation of India owned/hired godowns in the country, capacity-wise, State-wise separately; and
- (b) the rate of increase in capacity of godowns of Food Corporation of India and other agencies for preservation of foodgrains in comparison with the rate of production foodgrains and the population in the country during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The details of the number of godowns owned and hired by FCI, State-wise and capacity-wise, as on 30.9.98 are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The construction of godowns is a continuous activity. The construction programme is drawn up by the Food Corporation of India and other agencies in the various States keeping in view the specific requirements of the States and availability of funds. The addition in storage capacity by Food Corporation of India in the last three years is as under :-

S. No.	Year	Increase in Storage Capacity (In Lakh Mts)
1.	1995-96	1.18
2.	1996-97	0.09
3.	1997-98	0.11

Statement

State-wise number of godowns (Owned & Hired) with capacity (Owned & Hired) available with the Food Corporation of India as on 30.09.1998

(In lakh tonnes)

S. No.	State/U.T.s	No. of godowns		Covered capacity	
		Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4	—	0.17	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	35	77	11.82	4.47
3.	Assam	18	23	1.87	0.88
4.	Bihar	19	34	4.33	1.39
5.	Goa	1	—	0.15	—
6.	Gujarat	14	15	4.91	2.45
7.	Haryana	37	47	7.71	3.63
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	13	0.11	0.16
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	3	0.77	0.24
10.	Karnataka	15	41	2.76	1.87
11.	Kerala	20	4	5.24	0.12
12.	Madhya Pradesh	41	105	8.31	5.44
13.	Maharashtra	17	22	11.77	2.93
14.	Manipur	2	1	0.12	0.01
15.	Meghalaya	2	3	0.10	0.07
16.	Mizoram	4	2	0.18	0.05
17.	Nagaland	4	2	0.08	0.13
18.	Orissa	22	25	2.54	2.03
19.	Punjab	108	198	21.04	25.21
20.	Rajasthan	35	40	7.07	2.51
21.	Sikkim	1	3	0.07	0.09
22.	Tamil Nadu	16	13	5.87	2.44
23.	Tripura	2	5	0.18	0.17
24.	Uttar Pradesh	54	179	15.02	12.27
25.	West Bengal	26	26	8.62	2.95
26.	Chandigarh	4	4	0.40	0.21
27.	Delhi	7	1	3.22	0.05
28.	Pondicherry	3	1	0.41	0.12
Total		526	887	124.84	71.89