

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount demanded by the State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Himachal Pradesh has asked for financial assistance of Rs. 651.00 lakhs during the current financial year to meet the expenditure on various schemes started by the Himachal Pradesh Government for promoting education among the girls.

(c) Department of Education is in the process of formulation of a new scheme to provide free education for girls upto college level including professional courses. The request of Himachal Pradesh will be considered on finalisations of the scheme.

[English]

Targeted Public Distribution System

2002. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System has been tardy in many States;

(b) if so, the extent to which the scheme has been implemented in different States; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government procures and makes available to the States at subsidised prices certain essential commodities, viz., rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and Kerosene the responsibility of distribution to the consumers through the network of fair price shops (FPS) rests with the State

Government Union Territory Administration. Identification of the beneficiaries issue of cards and supervision of FPSs are matters within the administrative jurisdiction of the States/UTs.

TPDS has been implemented in all States/UTs except in the State of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

(c) In the guidelines for implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the States/UTs have been asked to constitute vigilance Committees at various levels, draw up inspection schedules right from Collector/District Magistrate to the Inspector of Supplies and take measures to introduce greater transparency in the working of the System. The need to take effective measures to ensure that card holders, particularly those below poverty line, are able to get PDS commodities without hindrance has been impressed upon the States/UTs. A model Citizens Charter for TPDS has also been prepared and circulated to the States/UTs for adoption.

[Translation]

Fencing

2003. SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land of Rajasthan in the total border area of the country;

(b) whether the fencing work of all border areas has been completed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Rajasthan has a 1035 Kms. (6100 Kms. coastline, and 14771 Kms. land border) of the country.

(b) to (d) Along Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangladesh borders, a total length of 1469 Kms. and 795 Kms. has been fenced respectively. Only sensitive stretches of the border are to be fenced and not all the borders of India as that is neither feasible nor desirable.