

Setting up Sugar Zones in Maharashtra to Help Backward Areas

*722. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra and also the Maharashtra Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Sangh have represented to the Central Government that for fixing the levy price of sugar the State of Maharashtra be divided into three zones according to agro-economic conditions to help setting up of sugar factories in backward areas instead of State being treated as one unit;

(b) whether the matter was referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices by Government of India;

(c) if so, the findings of the Bureau in this regard and whether the proposal of the State Government has been found acceptable; and

(d) if not, in what way Government propose to help new sugar units being set up in the backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Initially, Government of Maharashtra and the Maharashtra Rajya Sahakari Karkhana Sangh represented for dividing Maharashtra into 3 zones but later they changed it by requesting for 2 zones

(b) to (d). Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices which had been entrusted, amongst other things with the responsibility of looking at existing zoning system with a view to its reorganisation, have submitted their report in 1984. The re-zoning proposals submitted by the BICP which include some recommendations pertaining to the existing Maharashtra zones, are of a nature which could create legal, administrative and logistic difficulties in implementation. Detailed clarifications etc. on these proposals have been sought from the BICP

which would require in depth examination by the Government before a decision can be taken on these recommendations for being implemented or otherwise from 1985-86 sugar year.

Commissioning of 100 KW Medium Wave Transmitter at Mawjrong

*723. SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) when the Mawjrong 100 KW medium wave transmitter on the Shillong-Cherra Road of the Khasi Hills was commissioned;

(b) the results obtained; and

(c) the shortcomings in the radio network of that border strategic region that it has filled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) The 100 KW MW transmitter at Shillong has been installed and tested. It has not yet been commissioned.

(b) and (c). Do not, therefore, arise.

Norms for Lending to the Cooperatives

*724. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of norms prescribed for the cooperatives in advanced and backward States;

(b) whether there are same set of norms;

(c) whether there is a demand that NABARD and Government of India may evolve different sets of norms for lending to the cooperatives functioning in the States where there is greater concentration

of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population, small and marginal farmers and other weaker sections; and

(d) if so, steps being taken in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (d). The flow of credit from cooperative credit institutions is governed by the norms prescribed by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development from time to time. These norms are prescribed on the basis of seasonality discipline, level of recovery, non-overdue cover, level norms are uniform for all States and Union Territories. However, some of these norms are relaxed in the case of cooperatively weaker States particularly those States in the North Eastern Region and also farmers belonging to weaker sections. Further, special schemes are being drawn up exclusively for the benefit of cooperatively weaker States and Weaker sections of rural population during the Seventh Plan Period.

Unemployment amongst Rural and Urban Women

*725. **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take special measures for eradicating

unemployment amongst the rural and urban women in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to select districts for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the names of the districts and the Central assistance proposed to be given in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) This Ministry deals only with programmes in rural areas. While women are participating in all the income generating rural development programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), to focus greater attention on them a special sub-scheme of IRDP called Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) was launched in September, 1982.

(b) Fifteen districts in 22 States have been selected during the VIth Five Year Plan.

(c) Statement showing the selected districts is placed on the Table of the House. There is no uniform Central allocation per district. The releases depend upon the number of groups formed in each district.

Statement

List of the Districts selected under Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas

Name of the State	Name of the District approved for DWCRA
1. Andhra Pradesh	1. Adilabad
	2. Srikakulam
	3. Cuddapah