

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : There was no question in that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today the urban population is fast increasing and as such it has become necessary to check it. Have Government any scheme for development of rural areas to check this increasing population ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing more to this question.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : Sir, I would like to mention one point.

MR. SPEAKER : On the question of Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh ?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : On Shri Murli Deora's question Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think there is anything to it.

Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan

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*328. **SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY :**

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the main features of the Special Central Assistance for tribal sub-plan for 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : Special Central Assistance for Tribal sub-plan is an additive to State Plan efforts. This basis feature remains unchanged in the year 1985-86 also. This assistance is sought to fill critical gaps in tribal development programmes especially in implementing family oriented programmes. The tentative allocation for the year 1985-86 is Rs. 140 crores which represents an increase of about 11.50 per cent over 1984-85 level.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Hon. Minister has stated in her reply that the basic features for the year 1984-85 remain unchanged, but keeping in view the condition of Adivasis, there is a need to bring about changes in it. Therefore, I want to know what are the criteria for giving Special Central Assistance and whether there is a machinery for monitoring the expenditure to see that it is properly spent; if so, what is the nature thereof ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first criterion for giving Special Central Assistance is the population of Adivasis in the Tribal Sub Plan Area, the second is the geographical area under the Tribal Sub-Plan and the third is their backwardness. So far as the question of machinery for monitoring is concerned, every State has a monitoring cell for this purpose where monitoring is done. The Home Ministry has also a monitoring cell of its own, where generally project report are reviewed. These reports are received from each State. The Planning Commission and the Home Ministry also monitor the Progress Report jointly and point out the shortcomings and achievements to each State.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister, in reply to my question, has explained the position about the monitoring cell. I do not want to express any doubts about that but I want to know from her only this much that what is the number of families which were lifted above the poverty line during the Sixth Five Year Plan ? Did you conduct any survey in this regard ? What is the criterion on the basis of which you consider a family to have been lifted above the poverty line, on the basis of which you could claim that this is the number of families lifted above the poverty line ? Besides, what target has been fixed for the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the target for the Sixth Five Year Plan was to lift 27 lakh Adivasi families above the poverty line, but assistance was given to 39 lakhs and 66 thousand families and target fixed for the Seventh

Five Year Plan is to lift 40 lakh Adivasi families above the poverty line. In all, there are approximately 5.5 crore Adivasis in the country. So far as the question of conducting a survey is concerned, no economic survey of this nature has been conducted. However, sometimes, such evaluation studies are undertaken by the Tribal Research Institute in some pockets.

[English]

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what percentage of the tribals in different States of the country has been covered by the tribal sub-plan programme? What is the programme of the Government to bring such tribal population under the tribal sub-plan programme? If there is any misappropriation what steps is Government taking against them?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Sir, at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan, only about 75 per cent of the tribals were covered under the Tribal sub-plan programme. In areas of geographical concentration of Scheduled Tribes, appropriate Development programmes suited to the area and people had been taken up in an integrated manner through 181 ITDPS. The tribal population merged along with general population have been tackled through 245 special projects covering the pockets of tribal concentration. 72 tribes were also identified as primitive tribes for special attention. The remaining 25 per cent of tribal population will be covered during the 7th Plan through a "Cluster Approach Programmes".

SHRI SUKH RAM : Sir, the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir have got tremendous potential for growing commercial crops like seed potatoes, umpteen vegetables and fruits etc., but their marketing is not possible due to long distances and the road communication problem. So in view of this fact, may I know from the Hon. Home Minister whether she would consider expansion of air lift of such produce as part of the Special Central Assistance in tribal sub-plan in order to ameliorate the economic condition of the tribal people? Secondly these areas remain cut off from the rest of the world for about 6-7 months in a year due to heavy snowfall. So will the

Home Minister consider to provide funds in the tribal sub-plan for meeting the expenditure on frequent air services with freight subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : So far as the first part of the question is concerned about the marketing facilities and air lifting of some of the agricultural produce from the tribal areas to marketing places, this matter is being put forward for the first time and we have to examine it. I do not think that this is going to be entirely the problem of the tribals. There can be a large number of non-tribals who most probably would like to take advantage of the travel facility and also the air lifting of the produce. If concrete suggestion is being sent by the State Government, certainly we can get it examined. The same thing will apply to the other part of the question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Integrated Tribal Development Project areas are now comprising of a contiguous single unit and cluster of villages having more than 50 per cent of Scheduled Tribe population. As such, the State of West Bengal could now cover only 40 per cent of tribal plan, against 75 per cent throughout the country. So, to remove this anomaly, will Government of India consider enlarging the coverage of tribal population by relaxing the norm from 50 per cent to 25 per cent, or by adopting an SCP approach to cover all the ST population?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : This does not concern only West Bengal. The tribal sub-plan strating cover 17 States and two Union Territories. These have been covered by this programme; and I can very well inform the Hon. Member that the Working Group on Development of Scheduled Tribes during Seventh Plan has recommended the lowering of this norm of total population of 10,000 that was there formerly, to 5,000 under the Cluster Approach Programme". I have already said it. Under this approach, more such Scheduled Tribes remaining under tribal sub-plan and model programme are expected to be covered.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Has any evaluation been made?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : I said that at the end of every five-year Plan, evaluation and monitoring is made; and thereafter, we proceed to another five-year plan. Perochial monitoring and review are made at various level otherewise also as I have mentioned earlier.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Recently, the Hon. Prime Minister has visited the tribal areas and have seen the problems being faced by the Adivasis. I want to express my thanks to the Hon. Prime Minister on behalf of these people that he is keeping himself in touch with their problems by going there personally. There is a Tribal Sub-Plan for area development for Adivasis under which hospitals, roads etc. are constructed and all tribal people benefit therefrom. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether there is a proposal to formulate a Family Benefit Scheme in the Seventh Plan by making suitable changes in the Family Development Scheme ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : With regard to the Family Benefit Scheme, I have already said that the target has been raised to cover 40 lakh families. So far as the Hon. Minister going round the huts of the Adivasis and Harijans and making efforts to raise their standard of living and thus kindling a new hope in them is concerned, the Hon. Prime Minister has called a meeting of the Ministers in the Home Ministry on the evening of the 23rd and the orders which he will give, will be given effect to in Seventh Five Year Plan.

Smokeless Chulhas for Central Himalayan Region

329. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the quantity of fuel wood which could be saved in case smokeless chulhas and pressure Cookers are used by the people living in the Central Himalayan region;

(b) whether Government are formulating any scheme for providing grants to the people of this region for installing smokeless

Chulhas and purchasing pressure cookers with a view to saving fuel wool;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (d) Assessments have been made regarding the saving possible in fuel wood consumption through the use of improved chulhas. A National Programme for the propagation of Improved Chulhas has been launched since December, 1983. During the period ending 31.3.1985, 8.12 lakh chulhas were installed throughout the country (against a target of 5 lakh). These chulhas are estimated to be saving about 600,000 tonnes of fuel wood per year valued at about Rs. 24 crores per year. Out of these, 40577 chulhas were installed in the Central Himalayan Region namely the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, saving about 30,000 tonnes of fuel wood per year. The current year's national target is to install 6 lakh chulhas. The fixed models of improved chulhas are fully subsidised and the portable models are substantially subsidised by the Central Government. There is no proposal at present to give grants to the people for purchasing pressure cookers.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is spending a huge amount on the development of alternate sources of energy, but its expected impact is not visible in the Himalayan region. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether in view of the importance of Himalayan Region and also with a view to reducing the pressure of fire-wood on the forests, he would set-up a separate agency which may work for the expansion of alternate sources of energy in that area and giving subsidy etc. to the people ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It is why these alternate sources are being put to use in hilly areas. Many steps have already been taken in this regard such as, development of a new type of 'chulha'. Besides, other steps,