

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it depends on the areas, the quality of soil, and the availability of irrigation in that land. We are against mono-culture. We have issued guidelines to States in this regard but it depends on the climate of that region to plant a certain variety of trees so that they grow properly.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I have asked about fruit trees ?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I have told you that plantation of fruit trees depends on the soil of that area. You must be aware of it.

[*English*]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I would like to know from the Minister whether it has come to the notice of the Government that after the establishment of the Wasteland Board, a lot of land is being distributed by the State Governments under their schemes of land distribution programme etc. to the Adivasis, Harijans and others, and at least on a sizeable portion of such land distributed no cereal grows. That land is not capable of growing paddy, wheat or other cereals. Will the Government of India in consultation with the State Government encourage programme of afforestation on such land?

MR. SPEAKER: That is what they are doing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know that it is a State subject. The Government of India can only issue guidelines to the State Governments. Kindly listen to what I am submitting. So far as the allotment of land is concerned, I have already stated that this question does not arise. If some such matter has come to the notice of the hon. Member, then he may bring it to our notice in writing and we shall conduct an inquiry and take strong action against them.

[*English*]

SHRI M.Y. GHORPADE: Sir, I would like to know how long it will take Government to reach 5 million hectare per annum of wasteland development which is the set target that the Prime Minister put before the country. As you know, the performance is much below the target at present. How long will it take to reach the target of 5 million hectare?

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: It is true that the hon. Prime Minister wants maximum afforestation in this country. Last year we could not achieve our target of planting trees on 50 lakh hectares of land. But we could cover 17 lakh hectares. The target in the current year is to cover 23 lakh hectares. By the next 2 years, that is, by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, forests will be planted over 1 crore and 25 lakh hectares of land by the State Governments with the assistance of the Centre. We will be able to attain this target by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Upliftment of Tribals in Kerala

*848. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Kerala having the largest number of tribal population;

(b) the quantum of funds released to Kerala State during 1985-86 and 1986-87 towards the scheme for providing margin money assistance to Scheduled Tribe families under the poverty alleviation programme;

(c) whether Government have monitored the utilisation of the said funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) District-wise Scheduled Tribe Population in Kerala (1981 Census)

Sl. District No.	Scheduled Tribe Population	Percentage of Scheduled Tribe Population to total population in the district
1.	2	3
1. Wayanad	95,557	17.24
2. Idukki	38,712	3.98
3. Cannanore	39,704	1.41
4. Palghat	28,794	1.40
5. Kottayam	15,227	0.89
6. Trivandrum	14,145	0.54
7. Malappuram	7,955	0.33
8. Quilon	7,442	0.26
9. Kozhikode	3,888	0.17
10. Ernakulam	3,551	0.14
11. Alleppey	3,273	0.13
12. Trichur	3,227	0.13
Total	2,61,475	1.03

(b) Special Central assistance of Rs. 70.01 lakhs and Rs. 77.76 lakhs were released to the State during 1985-86 and 1986-87, respectively for taking up poverty alleviation programmes. In these releases, no amount was specified for margin money scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Kerala State Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes assisted under margin money scheme 865 tribal beneficiaries during 1985-86 and 389 tribal beneficiaries during 1986-87 (upto Nov. 86) and incurred

an expenditure on this account of Rs. 10,672 lakhs and Rs. 2.245 lakhs respectively.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, it is beyond doubt that the Government of India is trying their level best to alleviate the poverty among the tribals. In this respect the previous Kerala Government has proud record. However, much remains to be done in this connection. I will make a special reference to the only tribal constituency in Kerala, i.e. North Wayanad, which falls in my parliamentary constituency. Sir, even during my last visit to that constituency I had an occasion to see the pathetic living conditions of the Adivasies. An overwhelming majority of the Adivasies in that constituency are subjected to abject poverty, so also ignorance, sickness due to venereal diseases not to speak of sexual exploitation. I have received a lot of complaints regarding the callous indifference as well as cruel attitude of certain officers who are supposed to be in charge of overall development of Adivasies in that area. In this connection, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Minister will be pleased to send a special team to Kerala, especially to the Wayanad district, where there is the largest number of Adivasies living, about 95,000, to improve the living conditions of these Adivasies and also see how the funds allocated for the uplift of these Adivasies are being spent in that district.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is right. Wayanad district is the only district in Kerala where the concentration of tribal population is the largest one and as hon. Member has desired, I would look into the matter.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, keeping in view the fact that Adivasies mainly depend on forest source as well as forest wealth for their livelihood and they are also the people who live in harmony with forest and nature, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the

Minister will give clear instructions to State Government to provide employment to these tribal youngsters in the preservation of forest as well as the ecology in a perspective way.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : In ITD programme all these aspects are taken into consideration. Now, as hon. Member has drawn my attention I will look into all these aspects also and see how it can be maintained and how the tribals are helped in this respect.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker Sir, can I know from the hon. Minister as to how many States have diverted the funds allocated for Tribal Sub-Plan. What steps have the Government of India taken against those States who had diverted these funds including Kerala?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Mr. Speaker Sir, that information is not with me and I do not know whether Kerala has diverted any funds.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Though I come from Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, in my constituency also there are more than 14,000 tribals living in the hilly areas. Most of them, as my friend rightly stated, are in abject poverty. But the strangest paradox is that it is poverty amidst plenty, because most of these people are having land holdings, varying from two to five acres. One practical difficulty experienced by them is that they take small loans for cultivation. But before the crop ripens, wild animals from the adjacent forests come and destroy the whole crop, and they are put to further liability. There is no machinery to help, guide and advise them or to monitor their agricultural performance. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider the possibility of forming cooperative societies exclusively for Scheduled Tribes to help them in their agricultural operations and also to start agro-based industries?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: There is the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes cooperative in Kerala also and from 1986-87, it has started working in tribal areas.

Utilisation of Funds for 20 - Point Programme

* 849. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA†:**
SHRI C. SAMBU:

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds allocated to each State/Union Territory for implementing 20-Point Programme in 1986-87 were fully utilised;

(b) if so, the details of achievements in each State/Union Territory; and

(c) the amount allocated to each State/Union Territory for 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Outlays for 20-Point Programme are not fixed separately and specifically. These are derived from the relevant Plan heads. Except in the case of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa and West Bengal, where according to the anticipated expenditure figures reported by these states, the fund allocated to other States/UTs for implementing 20-Point Programme for 1986-87 were almost fully utilised.

(b) A statement (Statement-I) showing the approved outlays and anticipated expenditure for 20-Point Programme during 1986-87 State/Union Territory-wise is attached.

(c) A statement (Statement-II) showing the amount allocated to each State/Union Territory for 1987-88 is attached.