

Eighth Plan Targets

1253. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the suggestions made by the Planning Commission to various States/Union Territories for achieving the Eighth Plan targets;

(b) the criteria adopted to ensure that the State Government have actually utilised the funds allocated to them for the Eighth Plan under various heads;

(c) whether the State governments have also been asked to submit their progress reports annually; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES) (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Guidelines were sent to States and Union Territories regarding the thrusts, priorities and relevant strategies with reference to the formulation of 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) Utilisation of funds allocated to States is sought to be ensured through the mechanism of central assistance, the releases of which are related to progress of expenditure in conformity with approved outlays.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

1254. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sent any scheme to eradicate poverty with World Bank aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of assistance sought and the response of World Bank in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES) (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No such scheme has been received.

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

Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings

1256. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken adequate steps to see that the shares of public sector enterprises likely to be disinvested are given to the workers, common people and small investors mostly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). As already said in the

Budget Speech for 1991-92, Govt. proposed to disinvest a part of its share holding in selected public sector undertakings in favour of the public sector financial institutions, mutual funds, workers and the general public. In pursuance to this Government have already sold 8% shares in 30 public sector undertakings to public sector financial institutions, mutual funds and the merchant banks who would gradually off-load the shares in favour of the common people and small inventors. In regard to sale of shares to the workers, the details are still being worked out.

Prices of Essential Commodities

1257. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of essential commodities including sugar, vegetables, different types of pulses, onions, edible oils turmeric, red chillies and cummin seeds in the open market as on April 30, 1992;

(b) whether there is a substantial increase in the prices of all such commodities;

(c) if so, the measures taken to control and bring down the prices thereof; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The retail prices of essential commodities including sugar, Vegetables, different types of pulses onions, edible oils, turmeric red chillies and cummin seeds on open market as in 30.4.1992 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Some variation in the prices of these commodities has been noticed in recent period due to gap in the demand and supply of pulses, edible oils and nearly inelastic supply of onions, turmeric, red chillies and cummin seeds during the summer season.

(c) and (d). To meet the shortfall in the supplies of edible oils, it is proposed to import palmolien oil. For other commodities efforts are being made to increase there production within the country through providing incentives for higher production as well as rational distribution. It is expected that with the measures taken by the Government, the supply of these commodities will improve.