

[English]

### Growth Rate of Employment

968. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of employment in agriculture sector has been declining after 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the growth rate of employment in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). Assessment made in the Planning Commission shows that employment growth in agriculture during 1988—94 is likely to have been around 1.77 per cent per annum as against the growth rate of around 0.94 per cent per annum during 1983—88.

(c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan and the Plan strategy *inter alia* emphasises faster and geographically diversified growth of agriculture, so that the hitherto lagging regions have a larger share in agricultural growth and diversification of agriculture into high value, more labour intensive crops like vegetables and fruits, particularly in the agriculturally better developed regions.

### Poverty Alleviation Programme

969. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been fixed for providing loan/assistance by the public sector Banks under Self-employment and poverty alleviation programmes sponsored by the Government;

(b) if so, whether these targets have been achieved during the last three years;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that adequate amount of loan/assistance is provided for the above programmes by the public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The banks including the public sector banks are implementing various Government sponsored poverty alleviation programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Self Employment Scheme like the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY). The Scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEU<sup>Y</sup>) introduced in 1983 has been subsumed in PRMY with effect from 1st April, 1994. Under these schemes no separate targets are fixed for Public Sector Banks. However, the Central Government fixes annual targets State-wise and the concerned State Government authorities distribute these targets District-wise among the banks. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issues instructions to the banks for effective implementation of these schemes by the banks.

The year-wise targets fixed and achievements by the banks including the Public Sector Banks for each of these schemes are indicated as under:-