

**Procurement of Andhra Rice for Kerala**

3036. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :  
SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the  
Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUP-  
PLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of  
the high deficit in internal availability of  
rice in Kerala ;

(b) whether Government are also  
aware that the Andhra boiled rice is the  
most preferred variety of rice in Kerala ;

(c) whether Government will allow the  
Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation to  
procure stocks from Andhra Pradesh, espe-  
cially in view of the fact that Central  
Government allow private agencies to  
procure rice from surplus States ; and

(d) if so, steps taken in this direction  
and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND  
CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA  
SINGH) : (a) The State Government have  
reported a deficit in the allotment of rice  
compared to the total requirements.

(b) The State Government have re-  
quested for allotment of rice from Andhra  
Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d). Any request from Kerala  
Government in this regard will be exami-  
ned on merits when received, keeping in  
view the policy of the Government in this  
matter, and depending on the situation  
that prevails from time to time.

**Drinking Water Supply Scheme in  
Himachal Pradesh**

3037. PROF. NARAIN CHAND  
PARASHAR : Will the Minister of  
WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to  
state :

(a) whether any Centrally Sponsored  
Drinking Water Supply Schemes have been  
completed or are nearing completion in  
Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the names of the schemes  
alongwith details regarding the esti-  
mated cost, target dates and period of

construction as also the number of villages  
and population likely to be served ; and

(c) whether the schemes which are  
still pending and under construction would  
be expedited on a priority basis in view of  
prevailing drought and shortage of drinking  
water in the current year 1985-86 ?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND  
HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :**

(a) Water supply is a State subject.  
Schemes for providing rural drinking  
water supply are formulated and executed  
by the States. Grants under the Accele-  
rated Rural Water Supply Programme are  
released for the programme as a whole in  
a State and not for any particular  
scheme.

(b) In view of above, precise informa-  
tion regarding the number of schemes  
completed or nearing completion will be  
available only with the State Government.  
However, since the reintroduction of  
Accelerated Rural Water Supply Program-  
me (1977-78), schemes for providing water  
supply to 4883 villages in Himachal Pra-  
desh for benefiting a population of 9,43,296  
at a total estimated cost of Rs. 3648.46  
lakhs were given technical clearance by  
the Central Public Health Engineering  
Organisation of this Ministry.

According to the reports submitted by  
the State Government, 3426 problem vil-  
lages having a population of 6,96,488  
(according to 1971 Census) have been pro-  
vided with at least one source of safe  
drinking water under the Accelerated  
Rural Water Supply Programme from the  
inception of the scheme till December,  
1984.

(c) At meetings held to review perfor-  
mance of the States under Point 8 of 20  
Point Programme, all the States were  
requested to cover as many problem vil-  
lages as possible by the end of the Sixth  
Five Year Plan period. Based on the  
Memorandum received from the Govern-  
ment of Himachal Pradesh, the High Level  
Committee on Relief recommended Cen-  
tral assistance to the extent of Rs. 27  
lakhs in 84-85 and Rs. 15 lakhs in 85-86  
for drinking water supply in drought  
affected areas in Himachal Pradesh.