

of last year, they are lower by 4.1 per cent; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Constant watch is kept on the trend of exports and suitable measures are taken from time to time, keeping in view the situation and developments at home and abroad.

Claims received by National Insurance Units in Calcutta

731. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many claims have been received by National Insurance units in Calcutta from Birlas and other big houses on account of flood damages;

(b) total value of such claims; and

(c) how much of the amount has already been settled and paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) 30 Claims for flood damages have been lodged in Calcutta with the National Insurance Company Ltd. by 'Birlas' and 13 other 'Big Houses'.

(b) Rs. 5.65 crores.

(c) On Surveyors' recommendations, two claims of Birlas amounting to Rs. 4.92 lakhs have been settled and in respect of three claims from two other Big Houses, "on account" payment of Rs. 59.50 lakhs has been made.

Public Distribution System

732. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD
VERMA:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

SHRI BASANT SINGH
KHALSA:

PROF. P. G. MAVA-
LANKAR:

SHRI Y. P. SHASTRI:

CHAUDHRY RAM GOPAL
SINGH:

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

SHRI SHAMBHU NATH
CHATURVEDI:

SHRI G. S. THORA:

DR. BALDEV PRAKASH:

SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI BEDBRATA BARUA:

SHRI K. K. MURTHY:

SHRI A. R. BADRINARA-
YAN:

SHRI DURGA CHAND:

SHRI RAJ KESHAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has drawn up a plan to expand public distribution system in the country; and

(b) if so, what are its salient features and when the same is going to be put into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Scheme is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3335/79]. The State Governments have agreed to implement the Scheme by 1st July, 1979.