

Plans to divide Country into Geographic and Demographic Zones

2798. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempt has been made to tailor plans to geographically contiguous and homogenous zones in preference to political entities like linguistic States;

(b) if so, the number and nature of zones or regions in which this country is divided; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether any steps are proposed to be initiated to divide the country scientifically into geographic and demographic zones and leave the micro-planning within the confines of the zonal plans rather than the State plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) While plans are generally formulated State-wise, in a few cases, attempt has been made to identify well-defined resource regions and project development possibilities therein for use in formulation of plans at the State level.

Sufferings of Unrecognised Schedule Tribe Population

2799. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unrecognised Scheduled Tribe population has suffered heavily in educational, economic and political spheres for many years because of area restriction;

(b) whether the tribal welfare schemes included in the 20-point Programme have also paid attention towards the tribals who reside outside the Scheduled areas; and

(c) if so, the scheme in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) In respect of some States, the Scheduled Tribes have been specified in relation to certain areas in the State. Certain schemes, therefore, can be extended to those communities only which are included in the Schedule. However, a large number of programmes which are meant for weaker sections of the Community benefit all sections whether they are scheduled or not.

(b) and (c). The benefits of the 20-Point Economic Programme are extended equally to the tribals living within the Scheduled Areas or outside. The main schemes, under the 20-Point Programme, which will particularly benefit the Scheduled Tribes are as under:—

(1) Implementation of agricultural land ceilings and speedier distribution of surplus land and compilation of land records.

(2) Stepping up of provision of house-sites for landless and weaker sections.

(3) Bonded labour, wherever it exists, being declared illegal.

(4) Plan for liquidation of rural indebtedness. Legislation for moratorium on recovery of debt from landless labourers, small farmers and artisans.

Scheme for providing Employment opportunities to Educated Unemployed in Haryana

2800. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state: