

*[Translation]***Passport Advisory Committee**

98. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up the Passport Advisory Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The constitution of Central and State Passport Advisory Committees, has been under Government's consideration. The details of composition, tenure, functions etc., of the Passport Advisory Committees are being worked out.

*[English]***Loan to Farmers**

99. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of farmers have been benefited out of loan and subsidy given for minor irrigation and purchase of tractors and other agricultural implements in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

New Agricultural Policy

100. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO PATIL :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a new agricultural policy;

(b) whether the Government have consulted the Planning Commission and State Governments also in this regard;

(c) if so, the issues agreed upon; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A comprehensive National Agricultural Policy is under formulation.

MPLADS

101. SHRI S.S. OWAISI :
SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the achievements of MPLADS in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme has not achieved the desired results due to paucity of funds;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to increase the amount of money sanctioned to each constituency of MPs under MPLADS;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof;

(f) the total amount released by the Union Government to States and the amount utilised by them so far; State-wise;

(g) whether Government are receiving complaints from MPs for non-compliance of work by State Administration recommended by MPs; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and further steps being taken by Government to make the scheme a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) As per the information received from various Districts, 75.5% of the total funds released by the Govt. during 1993-98, has been sanctioned so far. Hence the question of paucity of funds does not arise. However, requests to enhance the amount of Rs. 1 crore have been received from some MPs. A statement indicating statewise position of release and utilisation of funds is annexed.

(g) and (h) Some complaints regarding improper implementation of MPLADS works have been brought to the