

1	2
8. Maharashtra	1.58
9. Karnataka	29.98
10. Orissa	1.32
11. Himachal Pradesh	0.51
Total	173.54

Allocation of Essential Commodities

164. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study conducted by the private and impartial institutions reveal that hardly 5 to 10 percent essential commodities reach the real consumers through the public distribution system; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to bring improvement in the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. However, in an operation of the magnitude of Public Distribution System (PDS), with its network of about 4.50 lakh Fair Price Shops (FPS) and long chain of delivery of PDS commodities some diversion of the commodities does take place.

(b) PDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government procures certain essential commodities, viz., rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and kerosene and makes them available to the States in bulk at subsidised prices, the distribution to the consumer through the network of FPSs is organised by the State Governments.

In the guidelines for implementation of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the States/U.Ts. have been asked to constitute vigilance Committees at various levels, draw up inspection schedules right from Collector/District Magistrate to the Inspector of Supplies and take measures to introduce greater transparency in the working of the System. A Model Citizens' Charter for TPDS has also been prepared and circulated to the States/U.Ts. for adoption.

SC's/ST's Posts in Universities

165. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether universities are not following norms in filling up the posts reserved for SC/ST;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such posts filled during each of the last three years;

(d) the number of such posts lying vacant in the universities; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) U.G.C. has informed that generally, the universities are implementing the reservation policy.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of House.

(e) U.G.C. is emphasising to all universities to implement reservation policy for Scs/STs. UGC has also constituted a Standing Committee for SC/ST for the implementation of reservation policy in the Universities.

Check on Activities on ISI in U.P. and Jammu and Kashmir

166. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) is printing copies of a book with anti-India speeches in Uttar Pradesh and smuggling it into the valley to indoctrinate Kashmir youth;

(b) if so, whether this book spread venom at Indian security forces, making wild allegations of rape and other atrocities; and

(c) if so, the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken to check such activities of ISI?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) According to available information, a book titled "Sang-e-meel" was written, published and printed in Uttar Pradesh sometime in 1996-97. Some copies of the book were reportedly distributed by the author to his friends in Kashmir. It could not, however, be known whether Pakistan's ISI was behind the publication of this book.

(b) The book which is based on fiction and not on historical reality aims at widening the gulf between Kashmiri Pandits and Muslims. It has fundamentalist and anti-national connotations and highlights the alleged killings of Kashmiri Muslims by the Security forces.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has already been requested to take appropriate action against the writer and publisher of the above said book under the relevant provisions of law.

[Translation]

Funds Under Operation Black Board Scheme

167. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released to Gujarat under Operation Black Board Scheme during 1998-99;

(b) whether the State Government has utilised this fund as per the guidelines laid by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) An amount of Rs. 8,73,27,600/- has been released to the Government of Gujarat under Operation Blackboard Scheme during 1998-99. The State Government is expected to utilise the above funds during the current financial year.

[English]

Modification of Guidelines for Housing Sector

168. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to modify the existing guidelines for the entry in the housing sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Action Plan for Gas Victims

169. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount allocated/provided during 1998-99 for the Action Plan pertaining to the Union Carbide gas leakage case and the manner in which

the amount spent in the Action Plan under various heads, break-up-wise; and

(b) the share of the Centre and the State Government in the amount allocated for the Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) A total outlay of Rs. 258.00 crore was approved for various rehabilitation schemes under the Action Plan prepared for Bhopal Gas Victims. This programme is to be implemented by the State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and expenditure is to be shared between Central Govt. and State Govt. in the ratio of 75:25. During the year 1998-99, a budget provision of Rs. 27.13 crore has been made by the Central Govt. for the Action Plan. However, this amount could not be released, so far as the State Govt. has not spent its corresponding share for the funds released earlier.

[English]

Repair Work of Qutub Minar

170. DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of that in repairing work of Qutub Minar, the Original Script is not maintained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to maintain the originality of the script; and

(d) the amount spent thereon during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir..

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per available information, the decorative Calligraphy work on the Veneer stone surface of the Qutab Minar has not been altered in the process of Conservation.

(d) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance, structural conservation and environmental development of the Qutab Minar Complex during the last 3 years is as under :-

1995-96	Rs. 14,10,691/-
1996-97	Rs. 11,47,100/-
1997-98	Rs. 14,65,908/-