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9. Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe Students	Since 93-94, with the Ministry of Welfare	The schemes has not been implemented in the State of Assam.
10. Special Central Assistance	March, 1980	(Rs. in lakhs) Released Utilised 1994-95 273.34 163.45 (24,418 Scheduled Caste families) out of a target of 48,000 were benefitted) 1995-96 226.65 (Target is 28,000 Scheduled Caste families)
11. Scheduled Caste Development Corporation	1978-79	Rs.30.74 lakhs during 1995-96 were released for 41,111 beneficiaries
12. Non-Governmental Organisations	1953-54	Grant-in-aid was given to three Non-Governmental Organisations during 1995-96.
13. National Overseas Scholarship	1953-54	2 students were given awards during 1994-95.
TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION		
1. Boys Hostels for Scheduled Tribes	1989-90	Rs.16 Lakhs for 32 hostels during 1994-95.
2. Girls Hostels for Scheduled Tribes	Third Five Year Plan	Rs.3.03 lakhs for 7 hostels during 1995-96
3. Ashram Schools	1990-91	
4. Educational Complex for Scheduled Tribes girls in low literacy pockets	1993-94	Assam is not covered under the scheme
5. Non-Governmental Organisations	1953-54	Rs.15.10 Lakhs for 3 N.G.Os during 1995-96
6. Research and Training	1979-80	Rs.42.42 Lakhs
7. Special Central Assistance	Fifth Five Year Plan	Rs.3745.43 Lakhs
8. Grants under Article 275(1)	1974-75	Rs.931.50 Lakhs
9. Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	1992-93	Rs.64.895 Lakhs for 6 Centres.

Public Distribution System

2555. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are certain special provisions under the public distribution system for the consumer living in the hilly regions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. People living in the hilly regions in the country falling under area specific programmes such as Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) and Designated Hill Areas (DHA), are covered under Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). The Central Government issues foodgrains to States/UTs for distribution in these areas at specially subsidised Central Issue Prices (CIP) which are Rs.50 per quintal less than the CIPs for normal PDS areas. The Central

Government has advised the States/UTs to add not more than 25 paise per kg. over and above the CIP while fixing the end retail prices. States have also been advised to ensure availability of at least 20 kg. of foodgrains per family per month to these areas and Central Government has earmarked adequate allocation for meeting this requirement.

Child Labour

2556. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any industry in Kerala is reported to be employing children below 14 years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action, if any, taken to free these children from such employment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The Government of Kerala has informed that though statistical data on