

any industry who has been in continuous service for not less than 1 year under an employer shall be retrenched by that employer until the workman has been given 1 months notice in writing indicating the reasons for retrenchment and the period of notice has expired, or the workman has been paid in lieu of such notice, wages for the period of notice.

According to the information available in this Ministry the gist of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated February 6, 1998 as reported in the journal Indian Factories and Labour Reports 1998(79) page 233, employees cannot be terminated arbitrarily and abruptly by notice of a month or 3 months or pay in lieu thereof - even if there is any stipulation in certified standing orders or contract of service.

The managements have to obey the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, which is the highest Court in this country and all citizens are bound by the decisions/orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

#### Assistance to North-Eastern States

4005. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided Central assistance to the North-Eastern States and Sikkim for agricultural activities;

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided to these States during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds utilised by these States during the said period; and

(d) the funds earmarked for these States for 1998-99. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A statement is attached.

#### Statement

*Release and utilisation of Central Assistance provided to the North-Eastern States and Sikkim for agricultural purpose during 1996-97 and 1997-98*

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	1996-97		1997-98	
	Release	Utilisation*	Release	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	221.08	498.83	499.80	392.43
Assam	1054.31	1009.85	397.48	654.80
Manipur	1228.69	1360.17	1135.85	495.81

1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	442.29	432.44	256.77	152.56
Mizoram	515.54	408.87	717.23	581.54
Nagaland	786.50	1120.85	875.88	661.80
Sikkim	314.72	484.08	340.66	275.40
Tripura	379.39	405.19	533.97	395.75

\*Utilisation figures include funds utilised in respect of unspent balance from previous years.

During 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 7434.61 lakhs have been earmarked for North-Eastern States. The State-wise allocations are yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

#### Tribal Development Schemes

4006. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:  
SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sub-plan under the tribal development schemes;

(b) the details of tribal development scheme functioning in the States, State-wise;

(c) the amount allocated under Tribal Development Scheme by the Union Government since 1991 to March, 1998, State-wise;

(d) the number of persons benefitted in each district of Rajasthan under this scheme; and

(e) the details of poor tribals benefitted directly of the works done in districts Udaipur, Dongarpur, Banswada, Sirohi and Kota Hadoti by Tribal Sub-Plan Development departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Supply of Natural Gas

4007. SHRIMATI BHAVANA KARDAM DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the Federation of Ceramic Industries Thangadh and Glow Tiles Manufacturers Associations,