

UTs during the last three years are as under :

Year	(In Tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat	Total
1995-96	1,43,000	21,000	1,64,000
1996-97	98,000	25,961	1,23,961
1997-98	1,29,716	65,497	1,95,213

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) On receipt of a request from Government of Assam, a quantity of 20,000 tonnes rice has been allotted to the State for flood relief with validity for lifting upto 31st October '98. Similarly, on the request of Government of Gujarat, a quantity of 20,000 tonnes common rice has been allotted to the State with validity for lifting upto 31st August, 1998.

North-Eastern Areas in Possession of other Countries

4011. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of such areas in the North-Eastern boarder areas of India which are not in occupation of India after 1962 and the length of such areas which are considered as No Man's Land; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Union Government for keeping the Indian land in her possession?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) China claims approximately 90,000 Sq. Kms. of Indian territory in the Eastern sector of the India-China boundary in Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) India and China are Committed to work towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. Both countries are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group and India - China Expert Group. The Agreement on Maintenance of Border Peace and Tranquility, signed in 1993, and the Agreement on Confidence Building measures, signed in November 1996, contribute to maintenance of peace and tranquility in the border areas.

[English]

Leprosy Prone Areas

4012. SHRI N. DENNIS:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is on the top where the number of leprosy patients are higher in comparison to other countries;

(b) if so, the details of such patients with the reasons therefor, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government have identified the leprosy prone areas in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate leprosy from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Country-wise details of the patients are given in the statement enclosed. The reasons for high number of patients in India are:

- (i) Higher patient load initially when effective treatment was introduced.
- (ii) Larger population coupled with the poor sanitation, ignorance of people regarding diseases and its curable aspects, not humid tropical climate.

(c) and (d) There is no leprosy prone areas in the country. The States of Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh have highest number of leprosy patients in India.

(e) Steps taken to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem are :

- (i) Modified Leprosy Elimination Campaign is being carried out in the States to flush out the hidden cases.
- (ii) Deployment of Mobile Leprosy Treatment Units in low endemic areas for providing free treatment to the patients with the help of general health care staff.
- (iii) Free MDT to all leprosy patients through the district leprosy societies throughout the country.
- (iv) Disability and Ulcer care being strengthened.

Statement

Leprosy Patients registered in 16 endemic countries

Sl. No.	Country	Registered cases beginning of '97
1	2	3
1.	India	553793
2.	Brazil	105744
3.	Indonesia	33739