

loan. In the 1997-98 Season (up to 30.6.1998), 54 parties have been given extension in the validity period of their Letters of Intent.

[Translation]

DANICS and DASS Cadre

4869. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :
SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of DANICS and DASS cadre working in Delhi have planned to strike soon from the first week of July;

(b) if so, the reasons behind such move; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the officials from going on strike?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have reported that the DANICS and DASS officers had planned to proceed on mass Casual leave for three days with effect from 1st July, 1998 to press the demand for acceptance of the recommendations made by the Fifth Central Pay Commission in regard to pay and grade structure of DANICS. However, they did not eventually go ahead with these plans. The Government have nonetheless taken note of the demand of DANICS officers.

[English]

Medical Aid to Cyclone affected People

4870. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO :

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

(a) whether the Government have sent any Central team to assess the out-break of the epidemic diseases like diarrhoea and the other diseases due to the current cyclone in the areas of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons affected by the epidemics, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government, State Governments, Voluntary Organisations and Kandla Port Trust Authority have provided any medical aid and other assistance including financial assistance to the cyclone affected persons;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any steps has been taken in advance by the concerned State Governments and the Kandla Port Trust Authority to save the people from this cyclone;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the action taken by the Government to save the people from such cyclone in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) On the request of the Government of Gujarat, a team from National Instt. of Communicable Diseases, Delhi visited the cyclone affected areas of Gandhidham block of Kutch district from 16th to 19th June, 1998 to make an assessment of the post-disaster conditions and investigate the likelihood of out-break of any waterborne vector borne or zoonotic disease. A team from National Malaria Eradication Programme also visited the affected areas of Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham and Anjar Talukas of Gujarat from 17th to 20th June, 1998 to make on the spot assessment of health situation in the cyclone affected areas in particular reference to malaria.

(c) There has been no report of out-break of water-borne, vector-borne or zoonotic diseases.

(d) and (e) The State Govt. of Gujarat have reported that medical aid was provided to cyclone affected people spread over 938 villages situated in 5 districts (Kutch, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Junagarh and Rajkot). 428 medical teams were despatched to the affected areas. 3 temporary hospitals, i.e. 1 at Lohana Mahajan Wadi (80 bedded), 1 in Adipur (10 bedded) in Kutch district and 1 at Moti Kavadi (30 bedded) were established to treat the people 1,05,755 ORS packets were distributed as well as chlorination of drinking water was undertaken. Local voluntary organisations and UNICEF helped in the medical relief.

(f) to (h) The Health Deptt. of the State formulated an action plan in the month of January, 1998 to be implemented accordingly.

On receipt of the warning regarding the impending cyclone from the Meteorological Department, the Control Rooms established at the State and District levels were activated to monitor the effects of cyclone. District Health Authorities were alerted to respond to the emergencies.

Information in respect of Maharashtra and Rajasthan is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Shortage of Labourers in Agriculture

4871. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the decreasing number of labourers in agricultural sector thereby the agricultural work is badly affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to meet this shortage of labourers in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir, The total number of agricultural workers has increased from 55.50 million in 1981 to 74.60 million in 1991. The growth rate of employment in agriculture sector rose from 0.94 in 1983-88 to 1.88 during 1988-94.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Fertilizer Project in Nellore

4872. SHRI K.P. NAIDU :
DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state :

(a) the demand of urea in the country projected to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers to arrange for manufacture in the country;

(b) whether public investment Board has cleared for setting up an IFFCO Urea Fertilizer Project at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) the time by which this proposal is likely to be cleared; and

(f) the manner by which the demand of Urea is likely to be met by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (f) According to the projections made for the formulation of the 9th Five Year plan, the demand for urea in the year 2001-02 was estimated at 245 lakh tonnes, on the assumption that the disparities in nutrient pricing would be corrected.

During the consideration by the Public Investment Board of IFFCO's proposal to set up grassroots ammonia-urea plant in Nellore district (Andhra Pradesh), there was a divergence of views in regard to the projected demand for the nutrient Nitrogen. The project proposal will be posed for investment approval as per the prescribed procedure after finalisation of the demand projections for nitrogen in the terminal year of the 9th Plan and the policy for capacity accretion, which is being reformulated in the light of the recommendations of the High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee. Any gap between the demand and the indigenous availability of urea will be met through imports.

Solution of Jammu and Kashmir Problem

4873. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of overall situation prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir, till date;

(b) the proposed measures to be adopted to deal with the situation in future;

(c) whether Union Government have adopted any strategy to solve the Jammu and Kashmir problem and strengthen the internal security; and