

programmes and schemes alongwith the purpose for which it was provided and the agency through which it was spent in the State;

(d) whether any audit has been conducted for the fund allocated to Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(e) if so, the audit objections raised therein;

(f) the action taken against each of the erring officials; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (b) Though health is a State subject, this Ministry has been engaged in assisting States to combat major communicable and non-communicable diseases. Several National Health Programmes are

accordingly being implemented as Centrally Sponsored Schemes aimed mainly at reduction of mortality and morbidity caused by major diseases. The major health schemes *inter-alia* include National programmes for the control/eradication of Malaria, Blindness, Leprosy, Tuberculosis, AIDS, National Family Welfare Programme, etc. These programmes are implemented throughout the country.

(c) A statement showing the details of funds released to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for major national health programmes during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is enclosed.

Central assistance is mainly provided to supplement the resources of the State Government for Control/ Eradication of diseases through supply of drugs, establishment of diagnostic facilities, etc. and these funds are spent in the state through the Programme Officers.

(d) to (g) No adverse comments in the audit reports for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 have come to the notice of this Ministry so far.

Statement

Financial Assistance to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for Major Health Programmes during 1995-96 to 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme	1228.26	769.35	1072.77
2.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	372.70	292.54	456.33
3.	National Programme for Control of Blindness	320.26	400.37	210.12
4.	National T.B. Control Programme	191.65	152.17	174.33
5.	National AIDS Control Programme	137.00	425.00	150.00
6.	National Family Welfare Programme	10126.12	9755.89	9993.30

[English]

Tea Industry Affected by Militants

4829. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Industry in Assam is under constant attack by the separatists/militants operating in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of tea gardens adversely affected by these separatists/militants; and

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Union Government to protect Tea Industry from the attack of these separatists/militants?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Tea Industry has also been affected, like other industries by militant operations in Assam. Extortion and kidnapping of tea garden personnel are common *modus operandi* of the militants.

(c) Many tea gardens have received demand notices from different militant organisations. Some tea gardens are hesitant to report the same of police authorities. According to information furnished by State Government, 15 tea gardens were affected by militants in the form of kidnapping/extortion etc. during 1997 and 1998.

(d) The steps taken include, *inter-alia*;

- (i) induction of additional para-military force including army in insurgency infested area;
- (ii) Assam Tea Plantation Task Force has been formed for giving security coverage to tea gardens.

(iii) Sensitising State Government from time to time regarding threat received by tea garden personnel.

Industrial Disputes

4830. SHRI MOINU HASSAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial disputes pending in the two Industrial Tribunals of Dhanbad as on 31.3.98; period-wise break up more than three months, six months and above one year;

(b) the period of oldest case lying in both the Courts; and

(c) the reasons for the delay and the steps taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (b) The number of industrial disputes pending in the two Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts in Dhanbad, tribunal-wise and period-wise as on 31.03.1998 is:—

Name of CGIT-cum-Labour Court	Pendency of Industrial Disputes			
	More than 3 months	More than 6 months	Above 1 year	Total
No. 1 Dhanbad	38	184	791	1013
No. 2 Dhanbad	488	250	141	879
Total:	526	434	932	1892

6 industrial disputes over 10 years are pending in both the Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts at Dhanbad.

(c) Major reasons for delay and steps taken thereof are:—

- (i) Shortage of Labour Courts in States/Union Territories.
- (ii) Filling up of vacancies of the post of Presiding Officers from time to time.

(iii) Procedural impediments such as absence of affected parties at the time of hearing, adjournments sought by parties to file documents etc.

(iv) Expeditious steps are taken to fill up posts of Presiding Officers in Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities.

(v) Presiding Officers are also impressed upon about the need to reduce pendency of Industrial Disputes Cases in their Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.