

[Translation]

Production of Sugarcane

237. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quality of sugarcane produced during the last year in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the quantity likely to be produced during the current year;

(b) if so, the details indicating the crushing capacity of the sugar mills at present in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether the present sugar mills in the State are capable of crushing the entire bulk of sugarcane; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken to ensure the crushing of entire sugarcane produced in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The sugarcane production in Uttar Pradesh during the last 1997-98 (October-September) sugar season was 1334.0 lakh tonnes. As against this, the likely sugarcane production during the current 1998-99 season is 1260 lakh tonnes. The sugar industry has been delicensed w.e.f. 11.9.1998. The installed capacity of the sugar mills of Uttar Pradesh as on 31.8.98 was 293325 TCD.

(c) and (d) The sugarcane produced in the State of Uttar Pradesh is utilised for manufacture of sugar, khandsari and gur. Besides this, it is also used for seed and chewing purposes. The percentage utilisation of sugarcane by the sugar mills has been in the range of 35 to 42 in the recent past. Thus, the mills have adequate capacity to crush the available sugarcane in the State of Uttar Pradesh. In order to increase the crushing capacities of the sugar mills, 99 letters of intent were granted for setting up of new sugar factories as well as expansion in the existing crushing capacity before the delicensing of the industry.

[English]

Revision of Commission for Petrol Dealers

238. SHRI S. S. OWAI SI :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have revised the Commission of petrol dealers recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cost exchequer to be born every year;

(d) whether this decision has been taken as per the recommendations of the Oil Coordination Committee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The Government had constituted a Committee of Directors (Marketing) of Oil Companies for the purpose of revision of dealers' Commission on MS, HSD, LPG etc. Based on the recommendation of the Directors' Committee, the dealers' commission on MS/HSD was revised on 6.11.97 having financial impact of about Rs. 227 crores. The dealers commission was also revised on 1.4.98 as per the approved formula in respect of revision in All India Consumer Price Index with retrospective effect from 3.7.1996.

[Translation]

Sex Crimes with Children

239. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :

SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been sharp rise in the sex crimes with children;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) one steps taken by the Government to prevent such crimes ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Available information relating to the increasing of child rape, procurement of minor girls and selling and buying of girls for prostitution during the years 1995 to 1997 is given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Child Procuration	Selling of girls	Buying of girls
1.	1995	4,067	107	19
2.	1996	4,083	94	22
3.	1997	Not available	87	13

(c) 'Police' being a State subject, it is essen-

tially for the State Government to take such preventive and punitive measures as are necessary to curb the crime against children. The Central Government, on its part, is giving focussed attention to the problems of women and children through the Department of Women & Child Development.

[Translation]

Suggestion for Amending Acts

240. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the existing Acts/Laws relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Presumably the reference is to the Report submitted by the National Commission for SCs and STs to the Government in which recommendations have been made to amend existing Acts/Laws on certain subjects relating to SCs/STs dealt with by this Ministry.

Under Section 6 of the Constitution (65th Amendment) Act 1990, the reports of the Commission alongwith the Action Taken Memorandum are to be laid on the Table of both the Houses of the Parliament.

The National Commission for SCs/STs has so far submitted four Reports and a Special Report to the Government. First, Second and Special Report of the Commission have already been laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament alongwith Action Taken Memorandum. The process of preparing Action Taken Memorandum on the recommendations of Commission in its Third and Fourth Report is going on and as soon as the process is completed the Action Taken Memorandum will be laid on the Table of both Houses.

[English]

Issue of Ration Cards

241. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy about issue of Ration Card to the residents of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total population of Chandigarh and the number of ration cards issued till date; and

(d) the number of ration depots at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Implementation of Public Distribution System (PDS) is the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments. While the Central Government is responsible for procuring and making available PDS commodities to the States/ Union Territories, the operational arrangements for further distribution to the consumers under the PDS including issue of ration cards is a subject matter within the jurisdiction of the State Government/Union Territory Administration.

(c) Total estimated population of Chandigarh as on July 1, 1998 is 8.40 lakhs and the number of Ration Cards in circulation is 1.96 lakhs (as on 31st August, 1998).

(d) As reported by the Union Territory Administration of Chandigarh there are 247 Fair Price Shops in the Union Territory (as on 31st August, 1998).

CGHS Dispensaries in Southern States

242. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CGHS dispensaries located in Southern States are able to cater the demands of the CGHS beneficiaries/pensioners;

(b) if so, the details of places covered by CGHS dispensaries;

(c) if not, whether the Union Government propose to start new CGHS dispensaries in those areas where CGHS facilities are not available at present; and

(d) if so, the details of places to be covered during 1998-99 and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) In the Southern States, the cities of Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad and Trivandrum are covered by CGHS and the demands of the beneficiaries and pensioners are generally met according to the features of the Scheme.

(c) and (d) As per the present policy of the