

below poverty line (BPL) in the State @ 10 kg. per family per month and partly on basis of average annual offtake in the past. Additional allocations are also being made to the States UTs subject to the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the constraints of food subsidy. Prior to the introduction of TPDS in June, 1997 the allocation of foodgrains under PDS including the erstwhile Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was based on the demand, offtake trend, availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool prices in the open market etc.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Scheme in Bihar

1933. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have paid its share to Bihar for construction of private toilets under centrally sponsored scheme during the last three years.

(b) if not, the reasons there: and

(c) the time by which the remaining amount of share is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government has not reported any expenditure since 1994-95. An amount of Rs. 441.163 lakh still remains unutilised with the State Government. Further, as per the existing procedure, release to the State Government could be considered only when the State has incurred an expenditure of atleast 60% of the available funds. The release is further subject to the submission of upto date Progress Reports/Utilisation Certificates/Audit Certificates by the State.

[English]

CSIR in West Bengal

1934. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop CSIR in West Bengal;

(b) the amount allocated to undeveloped district of Bankura in West Bengal; and

(c) the details of the audit report of CSIR, Bankura project?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has three national laboratories located in West Bengal viz. Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) Durgapur, Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI) and Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB) Calcutta. Besides, a CSIR Polytechnology Transfer Centre located at Calcutta the following National Laboratories/Institutions of CSIR have their extension centres in West Bengal:—

Name of the Labs/Instts.	Centre Located at
1. Central Fuel Research Institute, (CFRI) Dhanbad	Raniganj
2. National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS), New Delhi.	Bankura
3. National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML) Jamshedpur.	Howrah, Midnapore and Calcutta
4. Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) Roorkee	Calcutta
5. Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) Chennai	Calcutta
6. Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre (INSDOC), New Delhi.	Calcutta
7. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur.	Calcutta

All of these Institutes and the Extension Centres undertake R&D in the relevant areas and provide the services to the industries.

(b) An amount of Rs. 7.5 lakhs has been allocated for undertaking R&D activities in the district of Bankura,

West Bengal. These activities relate to modernisation of artisans 'design of handloom weaving, development of CAD system for Baluchari Saree, evaluation of Pachmura clay for Terracotta products using fly ash and upgradation of common clay pottery of Rani Bagh, Bankura.

(c) There is no reference as regards CSIR Science & Technology field station at Bankura.

[Translation]

Misuse of Passes

1935. SHRI MOTILAL VOORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Mantralay on mein Pravesh Ke Passon ka durupayog" appearing in the "Rashtriya Sahara" dated January 5, 1999;

(b) if so, the persons found responsible for issue of these special passes to private persons and the purpose thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry for misuse of special passes;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to inquire to ascertain whether these passes were used to collect confidential information; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (f) The news-item contains several allegations that are factually not correct. No irregularities in issue of passes to non-officials or instance of misuse of these passes for collection of confidential information by unauthorised persons have come to the notice of the Government.

[English]

Unwed Mothers among Tribals

1936. SHRI MULAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any project/scheme for rehabilitation and protection of unwed mothers among tribals of Wyanad and other areas in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representation is pending with the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

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

Essential Commodities Act, 1980

1937. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR:
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2509 dated December 15, 1998; regarding "blackmarketing/hoarding of commodities" and state:

(a) the details of the provisions of the prevention of blackmarketing and maintenance of supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 under which State Governments can take action against the persons involved in blackmarketing of essential commodities;

(b) whether the gravity of offence has been prescribed in these Acts'

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Essential Commodities (Special Provision) Act, 1981 is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) Under section 3(1) of the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, the State and Central Governments can issue orders of detention against persons whose activities are found prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community.