

(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) A statement showing the relative position of per capita Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) of the states vis-a-vis the per capita Net National Product (NNP) for the last ten years (at 1980-81 prices) is annexed. [see Appendix 188, Annexure No. 44]

(b) and (c) There are certain regions in the country which are unable to benefit adequately from the over-all growth process. For the most part such regions reflect the inadequate integration of the local economies in the wider growth process due to historical reasons. Balanced regional development has always been an essential component of the Indian development strategy. Since not all parts of the country are equally well endowed to take advantage of growth opportunities, and since historical inequalities have not been eliminated, planned intervention is required. The Ninth Plan has taken steps to ensure improved opportunity for public and private investment by appropriate policies in favour of the weaker states and has selected specific of social and physical infrastructure, agriculture, information technology and water policy for which Special Action Plans have been evolved in order to provide actionable, time-bound targets with adequate resources.

#### **Development of hilly regions**

†1660. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central assistance for the development of hilly regions is provided for certain States only and what is the justified basis for not providing aid to other States;

(b) by when the Central assistance, as per the aid being provided to other State for the development of hilly regions will be made available to Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINIS-Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

TRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in the development of hill areas, the Central Government is making a two—pronged effort. Firstly, hill areas which are co-extensive with the boundaries of the States are titled as Special Category States. These states derive two direct advantages *from* the formula used for distribution of central assistance: (a) after setting apart funds, required for externally aided

### **Elimination of Poverty in the Country**

1661. SHRI CO. POULOSE:

SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT:

SHRI K.M. SADFULLAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of families in the country living below the poverty line during the past three years, year-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the effect of various poverty alleviation schemes to uplift the people living below the poverty line in the country;
- (c) whether any evaluation has been done on the implementation of poverty alleviation schemes; and
- (d) by which year Government are intending to eliminate poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from large surveys of consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The last such survey was conducted in 1993-94. As such, the estimates of percentage of people living below the poverty line for the last three years are not available. The estimates