

(b) if so, where the talks are being held; and

(c) who are the participants in the talks from both sides and what is the progress so far?

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

(b) and (c) Senior officials of the Government of India and Leaders of the NSCN (IM) have had several rounds of talks at different places and as a result a cease fire between NSCN (IM) and Govt, of India has come into effect in Nagaland since 1.8.1997 which continues till date and is currently valid upto 31.7.2000.

Ganga Kalyan Yojna in Maharashtra

*357. SHRI SURYABHAN PATEL VAHADANE: Will the Minister RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beneficiaries comprising small and marginal farmers below the poverty line in Maharashtra, district-wise, under Ganga Kalyan Yojna; and

(b) what is the number of beneficiaries covered under this scheme from Adivasi and other than Adivasi areas, separately in that State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Eight districts of Maharashtra namely Dhule, Jalgaon, Buldana, Akola, Yavatmal, Amaravati, Nagpur and Chandrapur were covered under the erstwhile Ganga Kalyan Yojana. (GKY). The Yojana, which was started in 1996-97 could not be implemented fully due to some operational difficulties. It has therefore, been discontinued w.e.f. 1.4.1999. During its operation, only 25 individual projects comprising non-scheduled tribe beneficiaries in two districts i.e. Dhule with 4 and Akola with 21 could be implemented in the State.

Food for Work programme in Orissa

*358. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have Proposal to launch Food for Work programme in the cyclone affected districts in Orissa;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to launch the programme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) The High Powered Task Force for rehabilitation and reconstruction for cyclone area of Orissa has suggested that Food for Work' programme should be designed essentially for the 14 affected districts.