

**THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA):** (a) Based on decennial census, the total population in the rural areas as per 1991 Census is around 62.9 crores. To have information on employment and unemployment large scale surveys in the rural and urban areas are carried out quinquennially by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) under the Ministry of Planning. Based on the 43rd round (1987-88) survey conducted by NSSO from which results are available as reported by the Planning Commission, the information on rural employment and unemployment is as follows:—

	(Million) 1987-88
1. Number of persons employed (as per current weekly status)	203.5
2. Number of unemployed (as per current weekly status)	8.26
3. Proportion of self-employed among rural workers (as per current weekly status)	59.22%
4. Percentage of rural workers who worked less than 7 days in a week.	5.7%

(b) and (c) As per the latest estimates of Net Domestic Product (NDP) worked out by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) under the Ministry of Planning, the percentage of NDP in the rural areas was of the order of 58.91% during 1980-81 compared to 62.35% during 1970-71. Similar estimates for 1990-91 are yet to be made available. Government has taken several steps to increase the pace of Rural Development in the 8th Plan. The Central outlay has been stepped up substantially to Rs. 30,000/- crores in

8th Plan compared to the expenditure level of about Rs. 10,955/- crores in 7th Plan.

#### Health warning on Tobacco products

**\*73. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is legally mandatory for tobacco products to carry a health warning on the exterior;

(b) whether some tobacco products have been exempted from this legal requirement;

(c) if so, the names of such products involving tobacco, which do not require a warning to be written on their labels; and;

(d) whether Government are planning to bring all tobacco involving products within the purview of the Cigarette (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1975?

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY):** (a) to (c) As per the Cigarettes (Regulation of Production Supply and Distribution Act, 1975, it is mandatory to display health warning on all carton/packets of cigarettes. This Act does not apply to other tobacco products. Under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 a warning 'chewing of tobacco is injurious to health' is mandatory.

(d) It has been decided to bring forward a comprehensive legislation which would inter-alia include specific provisions regarding Statutory warning on packages of various tobacco products.