

The Reserve Bank of India has liberalised credit facilities to roller flour mills and it is hoped that this will help roller flour mills to make adequate purchases from farmers.

The procurement price of wheat being marketed during 1990-91 season has been raised from Rs. 200/- per quintal to Rs. 215/- per quintal. The higher procurement price is expected to give an incentive to farmers for increasing production.

Opening of F.P.S. in States

225. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts where fair price shops have not yet been opened at all the block levels; State-wise; and

(b) whether in addition to ration and kerosene oil, Janata cloth and first-aid items also are being/would be made available at all fair price shops even in remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Though the data relating to the total number of fair price shops functioning in each State and U.T. is available, Block-wise/District-wise information is not maintained by the Central Government. The total number of fair price shops in the country as on 30th September, 1989 is over 3.5 lakhs.

(b) The Janata Cloth Scheme is envisaged that at least 85 per cent of the Cloth produced should be distributed through the outlets of PDS/Apex Consumer Cooperatives/Consumer Federations or such agencies approved by the Central Government. There is no proposal to supply first-aid items through fair price shops.

Formulation of National Wage Policy

226. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a National Wage Policy to bridge the gap between the pay of Central Government employees and public sector employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No Sir, no Wage Policy to bridge the gap between the pay of Central Government employees and public sector employees is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Allocation of Funds for NCR

227. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem which had appeared in the Hindustan Times of 14th April, 1990 under the caption "Poor allocation for NCR";

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make available sufficient funds for the NCR;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what further steps Government have taken to make NCR more developed in view of the growing population?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A sum of Rs. 10 crores has been allocated to the N.C.R. Planning Board for the year 1990-91.

(d) An integrated Investment Plan for Rs. 2900 crores (Central Sector — Rs. 1750 crores, State Sector — Rs. 1150 crores) has been prepared by the N.C.R. Planning Board for the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Number of Registered Unemployed in the Country

228. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) What is the number of registered unemployed in the country as on 30th April, 1990; and

(b) What is the number of educated unemployed among them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) As per latest available information, 332.27 lakh job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, were on the live register of employment exchanges in the country at the end of February, 1990.

(b) Information relating to educated job-seekers is available upto 31st December, 1988 only. As on that date there were 175.12 lakh (Provisional) educated job-seekers (Matriculates and above) on the live register of employment exchanges out of 300.50 lakh total job-seekers.

Atrocities on SC/STs

229. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of atrocities on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes have shown an upward trend during the last two months;

(b) if so, the names of the States and the number of such incidents reported during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken to protect such sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected.

(c) The Government of India has recently enacted the law: "The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989" which has come into force with effect from 30.1.1990. This Act identifies various types of atrocities, provides for effective machinery to quickly deal with such cases, such as Special Courts and Special Public Prosecutors, and provides for stringent punishments to persons committing atrocities including the public servants who neglect their duties. Most of the State Governments have set up Special Courts and Special Public Prosecutors. The State Governments have also been advised to provide exclusive Special Courts wherever needed to ensure the conduct of day to day trial of the offences under this Act.

Filling up of Vacant Posts in the Railways

230. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn into the statement of the trade union leaders of the railway employees which appeared in the Indian Express of 10th April, 1990 regarding the ban on filling up of vacancies in the railways which has resulted in trains being run without guards and ticket-windows being without clerks;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;