

Steps to boost Punjab's economy

2471. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) has suggested some short term as well as long term action plans to rejuvenate the economic health of Punjab;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have since considered the suggestions of the PHDCCI;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what other steps Government propose to take to boost Punjab's economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The annual Plan for 1988-89 under implementation in Punjab has an outlay of Rs. 700 crores. In view of the extraordinary situation prevailing in Punjab, special Central assistance is being given to the State Government for funding the annual plan outlay. Various other steps have been taken for the economic development of Punjab including extension of concessions and facilities by the banks for increasing the flow of credit to the State.

Assistance to Haryana to check terrorism

2472. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what assistance has so far been given by the Central Government to the Haryana Government to check terrorism in the State;

(b) how many companies of CSPF and BSF have been deployed in the State as against the demand by the Haryana Government;

(c) how many automatic arms have so far been provided as against the requirement of the State Government; and

(d) what are the reasons for discrimination if any in the Central assistance between Punjab and Haryana for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Assistance was given to Haryana Government by way of deployment of CRPF, BSF and other State Government. Armed Police, by provision of arms and ammunition and by sanction of Rs. 50 lakhs as against the annual allocation of Rs. 27.19 lakhs under the Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces.

(b) and (c) From the security point of view it will not be in the public interest to divulge the quantum of force and number of arms and ammunition given to Haryana.

(d) The question of any discrimination in the Central assistance to Punjab and to Haryana does arise as there is considerable difference between the situation prevailing in Punjab and that in Haryana.

Loans advanced by NABARD

2473. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA;

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the interest rate for crop loans by NABARD;

(b) what is the total finance so far extended to the Indian farmers through NABARD as crop loans; and

(c) how much crop loan has so far been extended to Maharashtra by NABARD?