

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The President, in her address to Parliament on 4th June, 2009 had announced that the Government proposes to enact a National Food Security Act entitling each BPL family, by law, to 25 kg. of rice and/or wheat per month. The proposed law will also be used to bring about broader systemic reform in the Public Distribution System (PDS).

The Government has circulated a Concept Note on the important issues with regard to the proposed Act to State/Union Territory (UT) Governments and concerned Central Ministries for their comments/views. So far, views/comments have been received from 32 States/UTs. Consultations have also been held with the Planning Commission, concerned Central Ministries, experts and other stakeholders in the matter. A draft National Food Security Bill is under preparation.

Construction and opening of schools under SSA in Kerala

*240.SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools constructed and new schools opened under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in minority concentrated areas as on date;

(b) the number of such schools located in Kerala; and

(c) the proposals for opening of more schools in Kerala, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The status of (i) new primary and upper primary schools sanctioned and opened, and (ii) school buildings constructed in minority concentration areas, comprising 121 districts in the country and in 15 districts in Kerala, from 2006-07 to 2009-10 under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is given hereunder:-

Item	All States (121 districts)		Kerala (15 districts)	
	Sanctioned	Opened/ Constructed	Sanctioned	Opened/ Constructed
Opening of new Primary Schools	9501	7559	136	0
Opening of new Upper Primary Schools	10875	8358	2	0
Construction of primary school buildings	14342	9315	124	0
Construction of upper primary school buildings	8709	6538	2	0

(c) In the Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2010 - 2011, Kerala has proposed upgradation of six Multi Grade Learning Centres (MLGCs) in Vayanad district, to regular primary schools.