

(d) The State-wise monthly levy sugar quotas have been fixed on the basis of certain norms as mentioned above and are *not* based on the demands received from State Governments from time to time. Moreover, no demand for increase in the monthly quota was received from Maharashtra Government in recent past.

Census of the Blind People

467. SHRT BUOY KRISHNA HANDI-
'QUE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether census of the blind people in India is undertaken, if So, what is the figure State-wise; and

(b) what is the estimated number of cases of blindness where surgery can help restore sight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA
KIDWAI): (a) No census of the blind in India is undertaken. However, the 1981 census collected information *inter-alia* about totally blind persons through houselists in houselhting operations conducted during the year 1980. State-wise figures as per this operation are given in Annexure Statement.

(b) Sample Surveys carried out in different parts of the country by the Indian Council of Medical Research in 1973—75, gave an estimate of about 9 million blind persons in the country. As per this survey about 55 per cent of the blindness is due to cataract which usually occurs in old age and is curable by surgical interference. Based on this surveys, it can be said that surgery can restore eye sight in a little more than half of the total blind in the country.

Statement

*State-wise number of the totally blinded as per
houselisting operation conducted in 1980 for 1981
census*

1.	Andhra Pradesh	39,902
2.	Assam	Census could not be held.
3.	Bihar	39,719
4.	Gujarat	23,442
5.	Haryana	7,656
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3,924
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	3,891
8.	Karnataka	18,106
9.	Kerala	8,178
10.	Madhya Pradesh	53,451
11.	Maharashtra	36,964
12.	Manipur	620
13.	Meghalaya	1,117
14.	Nagaland	518
15.	Orissa	27,625
16.	Punjab	5,047
17.	Rajasthan	46,465
18.	Sikkim	182
19.	Tamil Nadu	29,215
20.	Tripura	1,521
21.	Uttar Pradesh	93,618
22.	West Bengal	29,155
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	738
3.	Chandigarh	98
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	98
5.	Delhi	1,962
6.	Goa, Daman & Diu	463
7.	Lakshadweep Islands	75
8.	Mizoram	366
9.	Pondicherry	480