

**Allocation for Public Distribution
System of Essential Commodities**

495. SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER :
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased
to state :

(a) whether Government propose to increase the plan allocation for meeting the requirements of public distribution system of essential commodities for the weaker sections of the society during the current and next financial year; and

(b) if so, to what extent the allocation is likely to improve the present system and

how the allocations are to be utilized by the various implementing agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI VIDYA
CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) A
statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Plan allocations for the various sectors do not include any outlay for public distribution system as such. The outlays for 1974-75 for some programmes relating to essential commodities are indicated below:

Programmes	Outlay for 1974-75 (Rs. in lakhs)
(1) Oil Seed Development Programmes (Centrally Sponsored)	200
(2) Intensive Pulses Districts Programmes (Centrally Sponsored)	150
(3) Minikit rice, wheat and millets programmes (Central Sector)	40

The programmes relating to minor irrigation, soil conservation, Command Area Development, Agriculture Credit etc., helps production of essential commodities. But this has no conceivable relation with the allocation for public distribution system.

Essential commodities like sugar, textiles, paper and paper boards and drugs and pharmaceuticals are mainly under production in the private sector. The levels of production attained by these industries during 1973-74 and anticipated during 1974-75 are indicated below :

Industry	Unit	1973-74 Production Provi- sional	1973-74 Present anticipat- ed pro- duction
Sugar	lakh tonnes	39.49	42.00
Textiles			
Mill sector cloth	mil. metres	4030	4200
Paper and paper boards	'000 tonnes	760	850
Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	Rs. crores	300	350

There is no special and separate arrangement for supply of selected essential goods through the public distribution system but the existing facilities are generally availed by the weaker sections of the community.

Accreditation of Chandigarh Newspapers

*496. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY : SHRI KIREN GHOSH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Press Council has commented adversely on the action of the Haryana Government in withdrawing accreditation of an editor of a Chandigarh newspaper and housing subsidy from two accredited correspondents;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps the Central Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of Press Council's decision dated 12-10-1974 which is self-explanatory is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XC, Annexure No. 56].

(c) State Governments are free in the matter of giving accreditation to correspondents and giving housing subsidy to the correspondents. According to information available, the Government of Haryana have restored the housing subsidy to Mr. Suresh Sharma of the Hindustan Times. Government of India also hope that the State Government will give due consideration to the observations and decisions of the Press Council of India.

Working of Reservoirs at Full Capacity

*497. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : SHRI VISHWANATHA MENON:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that out of the 16 major reservoirs, which account for 40 per cent of the country's power generation, 13 are yet to reach their full capacity level; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to bring the reservoirs to their full capacity level ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The reservoirs of hydro-electric projects are often designed for a carry-over capacity, and for generating the designed energy, it is not necessary in such cases that the water in the reservoir should be to the maximum level. Out of the 26 important reservoirs feeding hydro-electric stations in the country, only six have filled to their full capacity. All the other reservoirs have filled only partially. During the North-East Monsoon it is likely that the water availability position in some of the reservoirs in Tamil Nadu and Kerala would further improve.

The inflow of water into the reservoirs mainly depends on the rains during the monsoon months, though there is some lean season inflow also. A few reservoirs receive the benefit of snow melt. As such, it is not possible, at the present stage of the development of science and technology, to increase inflow into the reservoirs.

Requirements of Heavy Water

*498 SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state :