the Commission had advised initiation of major penalty proceedings in 517, 556 and 544 cases respectively.

(c) and (d) As per relevant disciplinary rules, the concerned disciplinary authority is required to take an independent view in each case after taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances of the case including the advice of the CVC. Acceptance or otherwise of the advice of the CVC lies with the concerned Disciplinary Authority. The Central Vigilance Commission maintains data of non-acceptance of its advice and reports such non-acceptance in its Annual Report.

Filing of vacant posts of SC/ST/OBC

390. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacant posts that lie in the SC, ST, OBC categories from both fresh recruitments and promotions;

(b) whether Government is taking steps to fill vacant reserved posts within a given time-frame; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) This information is not centrally maintained.

(b) and (c) Vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are filled along-with the unreserved vacancies. However, instructions provide that if the vacancies reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs in direct recruitment quota are not filed in first attempt, a second attempt should be made for recruiting suitable candidates belonging to the concerned category in the same recruitment year or as early as possible before the next recruitment year. Besides, the Government has launched a Special Recruitment Drive in 2008 to fill up the backlog reserved vacancies, both in direct recruitment quota and promotion quota on time bound basis. Periodical meetings have also been taken with the Central Ministries/Departments to expedite the process of filling up the backlog vacancies. All the Ministries/Departments have been asked to fill up the identified backlog vacancies by 31st March, 2012.

Plan for farming families of rural areas in the Twelfth Plan

† 391. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been come into light from the Government

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

survey of 2004-05 that only 17 per cent farmers families in rural areas of the country maintain their families through the products of their farms;

(b) if so, Government reaction in this regard;

(c) whether there is a need for other sources of income in rural areas in such situations; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the proposals laid down by Government for it during the Twelfth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) On the basis of the source of major income, 35.9% of the rural households were engaged in self-employment in agriculture in 2004-05 and further 25.8% of the rural households are engaged as agricultural labour according to the Statement 3.4 of National Sample Survey (NSS) Report No. 515 of the 61st Round. According to the Statement 5.9.2 of the same Report, 72.7 % of the usually working persons (principal status + subsidiary status) among rural persons are engaged in agriculture and allied activities.

(c) and (d) Various Ministries/Departments/Organisations in the Government of India are implementing schemes for enhancing rural employment for farming families *viz.* (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by the Ministry of Rural Development, (ii) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihoods Mission by the Ministry of Rural Development and (iii) Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), and (iv) National Horticulture Mission and related Development Schemes/Programmes being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Government supports improved vocational training and skill development as a critical part of the employment strategy.

The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), renamed as Aajeevika is being implemented in a mission mode. Aajeevika will support creation of strong institutions of the rural poor and livelihoods as well as diversifying into new livelihoods. Aajeevika will help the rural people through end to end solutions by ensuring forward and backward linkages. A new scheme Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP) has been initiated as a sub-component of the Aajeevika to meet the specific needs of women farmers and achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers.

Widening eealth disparities

392. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Approach Paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan,