

introduce cash transfers in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), starting with large cities with more than 1 million population; extending it to grain surplus States, and then giving option to deficit States to opt for cash or physical grain distribution.

Allowing State Governments for their own crop insurance schemes

*52. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to allow State Governments to come up with their own crop insurance schemes depending upon their needs and local climatic conditions, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is also considering to launch a National Crop Income Insurance Scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the requirements and agro-climatic conditions specific to each region, State Governments have been given the flexibility to develop suitable products for consideration and approval of the Central Government.

(b) Yes, Sir. The National Crop Income Insurance Scheme aims at protecting farmers from both yield and price losses.

**Guidelines for withdrawal of court cases
by Central and State Governments**

*53. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many cases of partiality by ruling parties have been reported in withdrawal of cases by Central and State Governments from various courts, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any guidelines have been framed by Government or Supreme Court for withdrawal of cases by Central and State Governments from various courts, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to frame guidelines for withdrawal of cases from courts, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The field relating to withdrawal of cases by the Central Government and the State Governments from various courts has been occupied by statutory provisions contained in various statutes including Sections 257 and 321 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XXIII Rule 1 of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. It is unlikely that withdrawal is done with partiality because the whole field of conducting cases including withdrawal is occupied by express statutory provisions. Besides, no withdrawal of criminal and civil case is possible without the leave of the court.

(b) and (c) No administrative guidelines have been framed by the Supreme Court for the withdrawal of cases by the Central and State Governments from various courts. As regards the Union Government, some Ministries/Departments have framed their internal guidelines for withdrawal of cases filed by them under Acts administered by them. Such withdrawal is also permitted on the applicant fulfilling certain conditions like payment of compounding fee etc. The legal position on the subject is summarized by the Supreme Court in the case of *Sheo Nandan Paswan Vs. State of Bihar and ors.* (AIR 1987 SC 877) (para44) wherein it is laid down that the withdrawal from prosecution is an executive function which vests in the Public Prosecutor and he may not seek instructions or guidance from outside to exercise his/her executive discretion. As there are sufficient provisions in various statutes in respect of withdrawal of cases with the leave of the court, the Government does not propose to frame any further guidelines on the subject.

Shatabdi trains in Jharkhand

*54. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to run Shatabdi trains in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to run Shatabdi trains between Dhanbad-Kolkata and Jamshedpur-Kolkata; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) Indian Railways do not introduce new trains on State-wise basis as railway network and train operations run across State boundaries. However, presently, Dhanbad is connected to Kolkata by a Shatabdi service viz. 12019/12020 Howrah-Ranchi Shatabdi Express (6 days a week). At present, Dhanbad and Tatanagar (Jamshedpur) are very well connected by train services and there is no proposal to run a Shatabdi Express train between