

## RAJYA SABHA

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### List of Questions for WRITTEN ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on  
Friday, the December 10, 2004/Agrahayana 19, 1926 (Saka)*

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**(Ministries: Agriculture; Chemicals and Fertilizers; Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Railways; Steel)**

**Total number of questions — 155**

#### **Cattle breeding farms**

840. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central cattle breeding farms which are now functional in the country and their location, station-wise;

(b) the present status of their functioning;

(c) whether there is any proposal to close down some of them including the one at Chiplima in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

#### **Sugarcane production**

†841. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of sugarcane has been declining in the country for last few years;

(b) if so, the production of sugarcane in

2004-05 in comparison to the production during the year 2000-01;

(c) whether it is also a fact that per hectare production of sugarcane has decreased during above years;

(d) if so, year-wise production rate of sugarcane during above two years; and

(e) the reasons for low level of total production of sugarcane?

#### **Study report on suicide by farmers**

†842. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH  
MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the study report published by Dr. V. Ratna and Dr. S. Glao of "Centre for Economic and Social Study" under the title "Farmers' Suicides: Looking Beyond the Debt Trap";

(b) if so, whether this report reveals the detailed information about the causes forcing farmers to commit suicide; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

#### **Assessment on yield of Bt. cotton**

843. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any assessment on the yield of Bt. Cotton in India, as there has been a lot of controversy over the reports of the independent surveys on the performance of the Bt. Cotton; and

(b) if so, the details of assessment made by Government in the matter?

#### **Spraying of coca cola on crops as pesticides**

†844. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers in certain districts in Andhra Pradesh are spraying coca-cola cold drink as a pesticide for the protection of their crops;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the crops are being protected by the above mentioned spraying method?

#### **Sreamlining NAIS**

845. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of provisions of the Crop Insurance Scheme in India and various

situations and conditions under which farmers could become beneficiaries of this scheme;

(b) whether farmers in various States are opposing this scheme in view of its failure to protect their interests;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken, so far, and measures proposed to be implemented to streamline the scheme;

(d) whether Government are seriously contemplating to amend the Act of Crop Insurance Policy in the best interest of the farmers;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

#### **Supply of spurious Bt. cotton seeds**

846. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a Multinational Private Company Mahyco had been supplying inferior quality of Bt. cotton seeds in Andhra Pradesh leading to total crop loss;

(b) if so, the details thereof with regards to Andhra Pradesh and all other States where such inferior quality of B.T. cotton seeds are supplied by Mahyco and other Multinational companies;

(c) the details of action taken so far, against these companies supplying Bt. cotton seeds in India; and

(d) the details of action taken so far, for compensating such loss of the farmers of Andhra Pradesh and other States?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

**Shortage of fodder for milch cattle**

†847. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of green and dry fodder for milch cattle available in the country;

(b) if so, the average annual production of green and dry fodder in the country;

(c) the number of milch cattle for which this fodder production is sufficient in view of requirements for a healthy milch cattle;

(d) whether it is a fact that this quantity of fodder is insufficient owing to the excessive number of milch cattle in the country; and

(e) if so, the additional quantity of fodder required in the country and what is the expected number of milch cattle in the country?

**Improving cattle fairs**

848. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand to develop and modernise the traditional weekly cattle fairs all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned for this purpose during 2003-04;

(d) the funds utilised, so far; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to improve such fairs, in order to assist farmers?

**Horticulture mission**

849. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to unveil Rs. 15,000 crores horticulture mission to transform the country's wastelands into valuable wealth-creating assets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Allocations to animal husbandry and dairying**

†850. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allocate more money for animal husbandry and dairying;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of amount likely to be allocated for the same?

**Cotton under Crop Insurance Scheme**

†851. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the crops covered under the Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that main crop like cotton has not been covered under Crop Insurance Scheme; and

(c) the details of the incentives to be given for production of cotton in the country and specially in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **Project on Kamlia insect in Madhya Pradesh**

†852. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the control of 'Kamlia' insect in certain districts of Madhya Pradesh has been pending before the Central Government;

(b) if so, the action being taken on the said proposal; and

(c) by when the said proposal is likely to be approved and the budget is sanctioned for the same?

### **Testing laboratories**

853. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of input testing laboratories for pesticides, fertilizers, micronutrients working at present;

(b) the details of their locations;

(c) whether their number is sufficient to meet the requirements of the farmers; and

(d) if not, whether Government would allow establishment of more such laboratories in private sector?

### **Special studies by ICAR**

854. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an additional fund has been provided to ICAR for conducting studies on specific issues in problem areas;

(b) if so, the crops and subjects identified for such special studies; and

(c) whether the mandate is to get the time bound result?

### **Closing or shifting of Research Institutes or Central Farms in Orissa**

855. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Farms and Research Institutes in Orissa under the agriculture sector either closed or shifted out of the State;

(b) the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of persons who have been rendered jobless thereby; and

(d) the details of infrastructure created for these farms and institutes and whether these are being utilized at present?

### **Development of floriculture in H.P.**

856. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the advantages of various agro climatic zones in Himachal Pradesh for the development of the floriculture and the required infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

### **Mango diseases**

†857. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that half of the mango fruit production in the country is wasted due to disease which destroys the flowing in the mango trees;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any research to save the mango fruit entirely;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government plan to spray pesticides with the help of helicopters in mango producing areas?

#### **Seeds from Government stores**

858. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government would educate the farmers through mass media to buy seeds only from Government retail stores;
- (b) if so, whether Government would consider insuring the crop if the seeds are bought from the Government retail stores; and
- (c) if so, the details of compensation to be given to farmers in case of failure of yield?

#### **Compensation for agricultural loss due to flood and drought in Kerala**

859. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:  
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Chief Minister and other Ministers of Kerala have submitted representations for flood and drought relief on various occasions seeking compensation for agriculture loss;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including relief sought, relief recommended by committees visited and granted during the last three years, year-wise, category-wise; and
- (c) the details of loss of human life and farmers committing suicide due to natural calamity and financial difficulty, due to loss in agriculture and inability to pay back loan to financial institutions, as submitted by competent authority of Kerala during that period, category-wise?

#### **Profits of CWC and FCI**

860. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:  
Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and Food Corporation of India (FCI) are earning profits recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the storage capacity of each of these corporations alongwith the percentage capacity utilization during the last three years, separately; and
- (e) the efforts made by Government to increase the storage capacity particularly in States like Tamil Nadu where procurement is high and also to help the corporation earn profit?

#### **Fertilizers availability during Kharif**

861. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the availability of complex fertilizers has affected the cultivation during the Kharif season; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Farmers emigrating from A.P.**

862. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether hundreds of debt-ridden farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka had committed suicide during the last seven months;
- (b) whether many distressed farmers from Andhra Pradesh are attempting to emigrate to Uganda and Kenya where they have been offered arable land on lease to grow cotton, sugarcane, tobacco and millets;
- (c) whether Government are aware that land-related issues have become hypersensitive in Kenya/thereby even endangering the lives of alien farming communities; and

(d) how Government propose to mitigate the sufferings of emigrated farmers?

#### **Review of SCAP**

863. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the Special Agricultural Credit Plan (SCAP);

(b) whether it has benefited the small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the details about the Plan and Procedure being taken in Maharashtra?

#### **Market-networks for agro-products**

864. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a unified market-network for agro-products and produces all over the country;

(b) whether such marketing facilities are also likely to be extended to the rural areas of Uttaranchal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Tissue culture in Gujarat**

865. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for promotion of tissue culture in the country;

(b) whether any such scheme has been promoted in Gujarat during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated for the purpose?

#### **Coconut cultivation in Gujarat**

866. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coconut cultivation has increased in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of production recorded during each of the last three years; district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the domestic use of coconut and coconut products and to set up coconut based industries?

#### **Suicide by farmers**

†867. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh etc. during the last six months;

(b) the amount of agricultural loan to be paid by these farmers and the amount of economic need in respect of each of them;

(c) the reasons of negligence committed by the State Governments towards these farmers and the reasons of indifferent attitude on the part of the Central Government; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to stop the incidents of suicide by the farmers in future?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

### **MSP for Rabi crops**

868. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the remunerative prices hiked recently for Rabi crops like wheat, sesame (Sarson) etc. are very less in comparison to the actual cost of these crops;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a nominal increase;

(c) whether Government propose to increase or revise the remunerative prices of Rabi crops in view of the high costs of inputs of farm products after increase in petro prices; and

(d) if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Making NAIS more farmer friendly**

869. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1027 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2004 and state:

(a) whether Government plan to make National Agriculture Insurance Scheme more farmer friendly has been materialised;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be announced;

(c) whether the proposed improvement would offer involvement and upfront subsidy;

(d) whether, under order of PM a joint study group of Agriculture and Finance Ministry has been set up; and

(e) if so, the details of recommendations and other suggestions made by this group

and the steps being considered to implement these suggestions?

### **Central Law on cow slaughter**

†870. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 585 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 2003 and state:

(a) by when Government will bring the Central law to ban the slaughtering of cows in view of strong respect and keeping the sentiments of people of country towards "Gomata"; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

### **Drought relief programmes in Himachal Pradesh**

†871. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of funds under the 'Drought Relief Programme' cleared by the Central Government for various drought-hit States recently;

(b) whether a request was also received from Himachal Pradesh in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of funds sought and sanctioned?

### **Fruit industry in J & K**

872. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that fruit growing is the only industry in Jammu and Kashmir that generates income and provide employment to people;

(b) whether this industry in that State has been facing crisis and sale-proceeds of

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Kashmir apple have been falling during the last few years; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider to go into the ailment of this industry and retrieve the same to health?

#### **All Day Milk Booths of DMS**

†873. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of All Day Milk Booths running under the Delhi Milk Scheme;

(b) the details of All Day Milk Booths being run at Sarojini Nagar, Kidwai Nagar, Netaji Nagar and Lakshmibai Nagar;

(c) whether all these booths have been provided with electricity;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the details of booths where electricity is yet to be provided together with reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the remaining booths are proposed to be provided with electricity?

#### **Revision of Schedule M of Drugs & Cosmetics Act**

874. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the strong reservations/objections of the small scale pharmaceutical units to the revision of Schedule M of Drugs & Cosmetics Act;

(b) whether 34 MPs had requested in a memorandum to the Prime Minister of the previous Government not to go ahead with

the amendments to Schedule M, *vis-a-vis* of the threat of closure of thousands of small scale pharmaceutical units;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government so far; and

(d) if not, whether Government would form a committee to examine the need based requirement before implementing the revised Schedule M?

#### **Shortage of Urea**

†875. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is likelihood of acute shortage in the availability of urea in the country for the forthcoming crop;

(b) if so, Government's response in this regard; and

(c) the total estimate of urea demanded for the rabi crop on the basis of Government's estimate and the quantity of urea produced in the country?

#### **Alternative and unarmful pesticides**

†876. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in the manufacturing of alternative and unarmful pesticides in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.



**Spurious fertilizers manufacturing units in Punjab**

877. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a few units manufacturing spurious fertilizers have been operating in Punjab for the last several years from where spurious and damaged fertilizers were being sent to various parts of the country;

(b) whether some persons have been arrested in this case and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Minister of Punjab Government had been monitoring the operation of these units and if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

**Phase III clinical trials**

878. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to make Phase III clinical trials mandatory for imported EDNA biotech drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any drug has been identified for clinical trials on recombinant drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Spurious drugs**

†879. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER  
SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Report of the World Health Organisation (WHO) stating that 35 per cent of the spurious drugs produced in the world are being manufactured in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have gathered any facts in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken and proposed to be taken to curb this practice?

**Revision in prices of drugs**

880. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority made a downward revision in the prices of certain drugs;

(b) if so, the details of drugs whose prices were revised by the NPPA including the earlier prevalent prices of these drugs;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of the pharmaceutical companies are still selling these drugs on the pre-revised rates;

(d) if so, the names of such companies; and

(e) the action taken against such companies by the Central Government?

**Bulk drugs under price control**

881. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are more than 500 commonly used bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the number and names out of them which are under the price control of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA);

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government propose to bring more number of commonly used bulk drugs under the price control of NPPA; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and when this will be done?

#### **Withdrawal of arthritis drug**

882. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US drug major Merck and Company Inc. has withdrawn its arthritis drug Vioxx from market after a study showed that it doubled the risk of heart attacks and strokes whereas the Indian pharma companies marketing the generic version of the same are undecided about the pulling out of the drugs, stating the US, FDA has not banned its use;

(b) whether the action of Merck intended to thwart the attempts of generic drug makers to undercut Merck, now that the patent protection on the same has expired; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

#### **Availability of life saving drugs**

883. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to heavy prices of drugs, charged by pharmaceutical companies in India, many people could not afford to purchase life saving drugs;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken by Government for ensuring the regular availability of life saving drugs at reasonable prices in the country;

(c) whether Government have

undertaken any review of performance of public sector units set up for manufacturing of critical bulk drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **Availability of complex fertilizer**

884. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the availability of complex fertilizer has affected the cultivation during the Kharif season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was a problem in the import and availability of phosphoric acid;

(d) if so, the circumstances and other details arising thereof; and

(e) what long term steps are being taken to overcome recurrence of this problem?

#### **Chemical wastage of Union Carbide**

885. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the dangerous chemical wastage of Union Carbide is still a curse for local masses and it should be removed as soon as possible;

(b) what action has been taken to ensure the destruction of the waste;

(c) whether Government plan to get help from other developed countries to get rid of it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Increasing foodgrains allocation to States**

886. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise details of allocation of foodgrains to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and States of North Eastern Region from the Central pool during the last three years;

(b) whether Central Government have received any demand from various State Governments to enhance the allocation of foodgrains; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

### **Starvation deaths**

887. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that at least 20 starvation deaths occurred among the Saharia tribes in Rajasthan;

(b) whether starvation deaths have also been reported from other States, especially Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Central aid sought and given to each State to avert such situations?

### **Private traders in food management**

888. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow private traders in the food management when the foodgrain stocks exceed the buffer requirements;

(b) the details of Government's policy on the private participation in food management; and

(c) the details regarding the stocks of rice and wheat in the Central pool during the last three years?

### **Review of BPL families**

†889. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the families living below the poverty line and Antyodaya Anna Yojana has been reviewed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

### **Foodgrains and Sugar to BPL families in U.P. and Uttaranchal**

890. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons below the poverty line as on 30th November, 2004 living in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, separately;

(b) the number out of them who are being provided foodgrains and sugar under Targeted Public Distribution System and Antyodaya Anna Yojana separately, State-wise and category-wise; and

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†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.