

**Jute development in AP**

2506. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central grants are being released to Andhra Pradesh, under the Government's Special Jute Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the results achieved in production of Jute in the State during the said period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Central Grants under Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) has been released to Government of Andhra Pradesh upto 2000-01 for the development of Mesta. However, since October 2000, the SJDP has been subsumed under Macro-Management Mode of Agriculture along with other 26 schemes to give more flexibility to States and implement the programmes on the basis of State's priorities and requirements. Funds are allocated and released to States in lump sum for Macro-Management Mode of Agriculture and not provided on the basis of individual crop.

The year-wise position regarding release of funds to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under SJDP are as under:

Year	Release (Rs. in Lakh)
1999-2000	23.4
2000-2001	9.00 (upto September 2000)
2001-2002	Subsumed under Macro-Management

(c) Since the scheme provided funds for the development of Mesta, Question does not arise.

**Expansion of NAIS**

2507. SHRI SUNIL SHASTRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the reach of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme, introduced few years back;

(b) if so, what are the targets; and

(c) whether Government also propose to popularise the scheme; if so, how?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to extend the coverage of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to selected perennial crops in selected areas on experimental basis. The crops identified are mango, apple, orange, pineapple and banana.

(c) To take the message of crop insurance to the farmers, publicity of the scheme is made. Some of the publicity measures undertaken are:

- Distribution of posters and handbills printed in vernacular language to financial institutions and State Government agencies.
- Participation in Krishi Melas/Exhibitions.
- Publicity through wall paintings and paintings on bus panels in rural areas.
- Broadcasting of Jingles on All India Radio.
- Newspaper advertisements in vernacular language and advertisements in rural-oriented magazines etc. are given.
- State level workshops and awareness programmes at districts/ blocks levels are organised.

#### **Subsidy under National Agricultural Insurance Schemes**

2508. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restrict subsidy in National Agricultural Insurance Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the existing provision in the Scheme small and marginal farmers are eligible for