

during the vegetative growth of plants. SRI causes better plant growth and development and economizes upon the use of seed, irrigation water, labour, plant protection chemicals and fertilizers and hence increases the productivity of land, water capital and labour significantly over conventional method of rice cultivation.

(b) The System of Rice Intensification technique is promoted under World Bank assisted project Irrigated Agriculture Modernized Water Bodies Restoration and Management (IAMWARM) in Tamil Nadu. During 2007-08, 912 demonstrations at the cost of Rs. 36.48 lakhs were organized. In 2008-09, a sum of Rs. 122.04 lakhs was spent for conducting 2034 demonstrations.

(c) to (e) The popularization and promotion of SRI through demonstrations at farmers' field is one of the important interventions of National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice) which is in operation since October, 2007 in 136 districts of 14 States (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) in the country. Besides, the similar intervention is also implemented in Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Area (ICDP-Rice) in non-NFSM districts and States under Macro-Management Programme.

Infrastructure for fishery sector

570. SHRI B. J. PANDA:

SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to modernize fishing harbours and landing centres to boost fishing industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating such infrastructure that is proposed to be developed on the East Coast;

(c) whether Government has evolved certain schemes to promote this industry, both at the national and international levels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) provides financial assistance to coastal State Governments, Union Territories and Port Trusts for modernization/expansion of the existing fishing harbours and fish landing centres. The existing fishing harbour at Dhamra in Orissa has been identified for modernization as a model on the East Coast with a view to promote export of marine fishery products. In addition, following new fishing harbours have been taken up for construction on the East Coast through financial assistance under the CSS:

(i) Petuaghat in West Bengal

(ii) Bahabalpur in Orissa

(iii) Karaikal in Puducherry