

if so, what is their reaction thereto; and

(d) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAISHAH): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Allotment of accommodation to the employees of special pool from general pool**

2. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that applications have been received by the Directorate of Estates for allotment of houses to their employees by offices which are at present not covered by the general pool;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in those cases; and

(c) how those offices would be required to meet the demands of such employees in view of the general shortage of accommodation in those offices?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) to (c) General pool accommodation is meant for allotment to the Central Government employees working in eligible offices. Certain Departments/offices who have constructed their own pool of accommodation, have been declared ineligible for allotment of accommodation from general pool either wholly or in respect of specified categories of employees. Applications received from such offices are not considered for allotment of general pool accommodation. They are required to meet their needs from their own pool of accommodation.

**Allotment of accommodation for special pool**

3. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Government offices which are not covered by the General Pool and have special pool of their own for the purpose of allotment of houses to the employees working in such offices;

(b) which of these pools do not construct houses on their own but depend on general pool to meet their requirement;

(c) what is the procedure followed by the general pool to meet the requirement of the offices which do not construct houses of their own;

(d) whether any request for houses of various types has been received from such offices during the last two years (January, 1989—December, 1990); and

(e) if so, what action has been taken on such requests?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**"Drought prone areas programmes and desert development programme"**

4. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the conceptional framework of the Drought Prone Areas Programmes and the Desert Development Programme (DDP) in the country;

(b) what progress has been made in this regard since inception giving detailed information regarding the implementation of these programmes in Rajasthan and Orissa, district-wise; and

(c) what are the basis of the present coverage of DPAP and DDP Programmes indicating the area/population which each of these programmes cover in the above two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHAND-BHAJ SHAH): (a) Conceptional framework of DPAP and DDP:

DPAP:

This programme was conceived as a long term measures for restoration of ecological balance through optimum utilisation of land, water, vegetation, livestock resources to mitigate the effects of drought in drought prone areas. The objectives of DPAP were defined by Task Force (1982) headed by Dr. Swaminathan as follows:

(a) Promoting a more productive dryland agriculture on the basis of the soil-water-climate resource of the area;

(b) Development and productive use of the water resource of the area;

(c) soil and moisture conservation including promotion of proper land use practices;

(d) afforestation including farm forestry; and

(e) livestock development including development of pasture and fodder resources.

The objectives of the Desert Development Programme in the area of its operation were considered broadly similar with emphasis on controlled

desertification. Accordingly, development activities in core sectors which directly contribute to achievement of drought proofing in DPAP areas and control of desertification in DDA areas are being taken up under these programmes.

(b) Progress:

The financial and physical achievements under DPAP in Orissa, DPAP & DDP in Rajasthan are given in Annexure-I, II & III. District-wise details are not being maintained at the central level.

(c) Coverage:

The present coverage of the areas under DPAP is based on the following criteria laid down by the Task Force headed by Dr. Swaminathan (1982) which takes into account average annual rainfall and extent of area under irrigation with block as the basic unit of the coverage.

(a) Areas where average annual rainfall is below 750 mm. and has less than 20 per cent of the net sown area under irrigation;

(b) Areas where average annual rainfall is between 750—1125 mm. and has less than 15 per cent of the net sown area, under irrigation; and

(c) Areas where average annual rainfall is above 1125 mm. and has less than 20 per cent of the net sown area under irrigation.

7. The above criteria is subject to the administrative consideration that the number of blocks to be covered should be at least 20 per cent of the total blocks in the district.

In case of DDP, areas having average rainfall of less than 400 mm and having less than 30 per cent of the irrigated area to net sown area are included. Details regarding area and population covered under DPAP and DDP in respect of Rajasthan and Orissa is given at Annexure-IV.