

Incentives for agriculture

417. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO
PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 27th June, 1991 to the effect that loan waiver scheme to be reviewed and incentives for agriculture to be provided and if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the productivity per hectare is reduced day-by-day owing to land logging and salinity and absence of adequate research to produce new varieties suitable to tropical countries; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to rectify imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The working of the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme is monitored regularly by the Reserve Bank of India and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to make any changes in the scheme. There is also no proposal under consideration for providing further incentives for agriculture.

(b) and (c) Productivity per hectare is low in water logging and salinity conditions. The various All India Crops Improvement Projects are continuously evolving new varieties of crops suitable to various Agro-climatic conditions in the country.

418. [Transferred to the 30th July, 1991]

Deceleration in Farm Jobs

419. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO
PATIL:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report which appeared in the Times of India dated the 1st May, 1991 under heading "Farm Jobs Decelerate" and if so, what is Government's reaction in regard to the analysis of the present contribution by agriculture to economy as well as employment; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to rectify the imbalance in the contribution by the agriculture sector and the manufacture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. Trends of contribution by Agriculture to total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as well as employment are in tune with the development process. In the developing economy, share of agriculture in the national income as also workers employed in Agriculture will have to come down over the years. However, in India, there has been only marginal decline in the proportion of workers engaged in agriculture.

(b) The Government propose to create more non-farm employment opportunities through development of small and agro-based industries in the rural sector to shift the burden of population from agriculture to non-agriculture sector.

420. [Transferred to the 25th July, 1991]

... .. Krishi Vigyan Kendras ...

421. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras working in the country under Private management and also