

so far through various programmes as per follow up action of the recommendations; and

(b) the total ■ expenditure incurred so far on the above programmes?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The Report on the Patterns in Indian Agricultural Development has made recommendations for larger investments, for providing irrigation facilities, water management, adoption of flood control measures, appropriate water preservation technology through watershed management, development of appropriate dryland technology and strengthening of infrastructure etc.

There has been overall increase in production and productivity of foodgrains during 1988-89 as a result of the implementation of the various development programmes. A Statement giving State-wise details of foodgrains production and productivity in respect of major States is enclosed [See Appendix CLII, Annexure No. 17]

(b) Total Central funds released for the three programmes i.e. Special Foodgrains Production Programme, Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers and National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture during the period 1986-87 to 1989-90 amount to Rs. 505.17 crore.

#### **Claims outstanding under the Crop Insurance Scheme**

478. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of claims under the Crop Insurance Scheme which still remain to be paid to the farmers State wise; when were these crops a failure;

(b) whether the financial plight of the farmers since, then, was known to Government and the deep resentment prevailing in them (including in Gu

jarat Farmers) has found expression publicly;

(c) what precautions and preliminary effective steps were taken to avoid delay in payments and the resulting discontentment; and

(d) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The statement of State-wise & Season wise details of indemnity claims which still remain to be paid under the CCIS upto the end of Rabi 1988-89 season is laid on the table of the House [See Appendix CLII, Annexure No. 18]

(b) Government is aware that the issue relating to delayed payments of Kharif 1987 claims in respect of Gujarat appeared in the newspapers.

(c) Out of the total claims of Rs. 585.55 crore that were payable under the CCIS up to the end of Rabi 1988-89, claims of the order of Rs. 571.66 crore have already been paid. Only an amount of Rs. 13.89 crore is pending for payment. This amount is also pending to a large extent due to non-receipt of 1/3rd share of the State Governments. Larger budgetary requirements on account of unexpectedly high claims, the procedure involved in verification and settlement of such claims and delayed release of State Government's share, sometimes come in the way of speedy settlement of claims.

(d) State Governments have been advised to send yield data in time and also release their 1/3 share expeditiously to avoid delay.

#### **Casual Employees in the Railways**

479. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred question 2706 answered in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th August, 1989 and state:

(a) the total number of casual em-