

provide service in the State to a population of about 126.4 lakhs. Besides, a population of about 29.1 lakhs of the State is covered by TV transmitters functioning in the neighbouring States.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Construction of Wells in Rajasthan

3224. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells constructed in Rajasthan under IRDP during the last three years;

(b) the classification of wells and the amount spent on them;

(c) the number of wells which collapsed or became useless;

(d) the performance report of the wells already constructed; and

(e) the total number of wells proposed to be constructed during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) 2946 new wells were constructed and 9577 wells deepened under IRDP in Rajasthan during last three years.

(b) An amount of Rs. 294.6 lakhs was spent on construction of these new wells and Rs. 287.31 lakhs on deepening of wells.

(c) and (d) This information is not being monitored.

(e) 2464 wells are proposed to be constructed and 5761 deepened during the current financial year (1987-88).

Rice Development Programme in Bihar

3225. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Special Rice Development Programme had been taken up in Bihar in 1985-86;

(b) whether it is also a fact that convener BPCC (I) Kisan Cell has written to the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture on the 3rd January, 1988 that the amount spent on the programme has been defaulded by the officers of the Agriculture Department of Bihar; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard till today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. A Central Sponsored Special Rice Production Programme is being implemented in Bihar from 1985-86.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Minister of State for Agriculture received a letter dated 1.1.1988 from the Convener BPCC (I) Kisan Cell complaining that there is a great misappropriation of Central Grant in the implementation of the Special Rice Development Programme in Bihar.

(c) Department of Agriculture, Bihar was requested in February, 1988 to contact the Convener BPCC (I) Kisan Cell for obtaining specific instances of misappropriation, if any and submit a report. The Authorities have been reminded in March, 1988.

Inadequate supply of Wheat to Flour Millers in A. P.

3226. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPE NDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD

AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have recently been received from flour millers in Andhra Pradesh regarding inadequate supply of wheat resulting in the rise in prices of wheat products like rawa, maida and atta; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to ensure adequate supplies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(to) To augment the supply, F. C. I, has been selling wheat through open auctions at Hyderabad.

Production of Solvent Extracted Cotton-seed Oil

3227. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI; Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of solvent extracted cotton-seed oil being used by Vanaspati industry for availing of Vanaspati excise duty rebate as per 1987-88 budget proposals;

(b) whether the budget proposals had encouraged production of solvent extracted cotton-seed oil; and

(c) if not, what measures are being contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) An estimated quantity of 6, 900 M. T, of solvent extracted cotton-seed oil would be used by Vanaspati industry during 1987-88.

(b) and (c) The budget proposals for 1987-88 had provided an excise rebate of Rs. 3, 250 per M. T. for usage of solvent extracted cottonseed oil in the manufacture of Vanaspati. This has now been raised of Rs. 4, 000 from 1st March, 1988.

Government has also allowed 10 per cent cash compensatory support on export of cottonseed extraction.

Export of Cotton Seed Extractions

3228. SHRI SHAMIM AHMED SIDDIQI; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the export of cotton seed extractions during the last three years; whether there is any decline in export and if so, the measures Government propose to take in this regard;

(b) the installed capacity of scientific cottonseed processing in the country and its present utilisation; whether the present utilisation is at 'an economical level and if not, what are the efforts being made by Government to improve upon efficiency;

(c) the total potential for extracting cottonseed oil and actual extraction in the country; whether full potential is not exploited, and if so, what are the efforts especially in the context of large-scale import of edible oils; and

(d) the total investment and employment in the above industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The exports of Cotton seed extractions since 1984-85 have been of the following order: —

Year	Quantity tonnes
1984-85.	. 62, 881
1985-86.	. 35, 908
1986-87.	. 53, 083
1987-88 (April to Feb., 1988)	. 19, 300

Cash compensatory Support is allowed on exports of Solvent extracted oil meals including Cottonseed extractions.