

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA); (a) State-wise estimates of percent loss of agricultural produce due to soil erosion have not been made. However, it is estimated that about 175 million hectares out of total geographical area of 329 million hectares is subject to soil erosion and land degradation. This includes about 1051 million hectares of cultivable land, 19 million hectares of forest land, 8 million ha. of non-forest land and 43 million ha. of various types of lands subject to degradation due to water logging, alkalinity, salinity, ravines, gullies, shifting cultivation, desertification, etc.

(b) Programmes of soil and water conservation under the Central and State Sector have been taken up since First Five Year Plan. Both engineering and vegetative measures are adopted. They consist of bunding, terracing, land levelling and shaping, water harvesting structures, improved cropping patterns, control of gullies, reclamation of revines, reclamation of saline and alkali soils, afforestation, grassland development, etc. depending upon the kind of problem in different types of lands. In rainfed areas, the measures aim at conserving rain water both in the soil profile and small surface storage and the proper utilisation of stored moisture for increasing crop production. The checking of soil erosion also improves soil productivity.

Upto the end of Sixth Plan, an area of 29.3 million ha. had been treated with various types of soil and moisture conservation measures both under Central and State sectors. For rainfed areas, the National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture has been launched during 1987-87 in 99 districts located in 16 states. A total area of 9.28 lakh ha. will be covered under this programme in the Seventh Plan.

(c) Based upon the research findings and the experience in implementation of various programmes, continuous improvement is carried out in the methods of soil and moisture conservation for different types of lands as well as for the rainfed areas. More stress is laid on maximising in situ moisture conservation by adopting vegetative contour guidelines, contour cultivation, water harvesting structures wherever possible, adoption of suitable crop varieties, important agronomic practices like timely sowing, proper placement of seeds, use of fertilisers and adoption of plant protection measures, improved tools and implements, etc. A combination of vegetative and engineering treatments for control of gullies and other types of erosion, afforestation, development of grasslands and horticulture are also taken up under the integrated approach.

Slum Population in India

1135. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) 'what is the percentage of migration of population from the rural areas to the urban areas since the beginning of 1986 till date and how does it compare with the percentage of migration during the corresponding period in 1984 and 1985;

(b) what is the percentage of rise in the slum population in the metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras as a consequence thereof since the beginning of 1986 till date;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government's strategy to clear the slums and to rehabilitate the slum dwellers was given up at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government proposed to take to tackle the problem of increasing slum population in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) No data is available since no such survey has been conducted by the Central Government or by the State Governments during the years 1984, 1985 or 1986.

(c) Yes, sir, Massive relocation of slums is no more the policy of the Government/The emphasis now is on improvement of environment in slum areas, because it avoids social and economic uprooting and can be done at comparatively lesser costs.

(d) Whether the Government seeks to improve livability in existing slums, it aims at restricting slum population by developing small and medium towns under IDSMT scheme to control migration to major cities.

Central Assistance to Tobacco Growers of Andhra Pradesh

1136. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tobacco barns were destroyed due to flood in Andhra Pradesh during the month of August, 1986; and

(b) if so what kind of assistance Government propose to extend to the tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) According to the Memorandum seeking Central assistance for flood relief, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for Central assistance of Rs. 0.50 lakhs towards subsidy on repair of 24 tobacco barns belonging to small and marginal far-

mers. Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief, a sum of Rs. 0.50 lakhs has been approved for this item.

कृषि मंत्रालय में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

1137. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि न तो कृषि मंत्रालय और उसके सम्बद्ध तथा अधीनस्थ कार्यालयों ने और न भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् या अन्य संस्थानों ने राजभाषा अधिनियम के उपबंधों तथा राजभाषा विभाग द्वारा जारी किये गये वार्षिक कार्यक्रम या इसके उपबंधों को लागू किया है, यहां तक कि उनके द्वारा अधिनियम की धारा 3(3) का भी अनुपालन नहीं किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि यद्यपि अब टेलीप्रिन्टर, टेलीक्स, कम्प्यूटर आदि यांत्रिक तरीके राजभाषा में प्रचुर संख्या में उपलब्ध हैं, तथापि मंत्रालय या भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् में देवनागरी टंकण यंत्रों, टंकणों और आशुलिपिकों की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था नहीं है, यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कमी को दूर करने के लिये क्या-क्या प्रस्ताव हैं ; और

(ग) इस मंत्रालय तथा भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् के अधीन पुस्तकालयों में अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी की पुस्तकों तथा पत्रिकाओं की क्या स्थिति है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाना) : (क) और (ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) इस मंत्रालय तथा भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद् के पुस्तकालयों में अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी की पुस्तकों तथा पत्रिकाओं की स्थिति नीचे दी गई है :—