

in promoting and developing the growth of the girl child.

(c) The final report of the Seminar has not been received by the Ministry. However, Government has already taken up major programmes for expanding and improving social services for woman and child development with due emphasis and attention to the above mentioned points.

Fixing of procurement prices of paddy

693. SHRI 'BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently fixed the procurement prices of various categories of paddy;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of the cost structure taken into account in arriving at the said prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The Government have fixed the procurement prices of paddy of fair average quality at Rs. 142, Rs. 146 and Rs. 150 per quintal for common, fine and superfine varieties respectively for the 1985-86 marketing¹ season.

(c) The cost of production taken into account includes not only all paid-out costs but also imputed value of owned assets like land and family labour, etc., for which the farmers do not incur cash expenses.

Payment to the Commonwealth Agriculture Bureau, a British Institute

694. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have been paying any money

to a British Institute previously called Imperial Agricultural Bureau now named the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau for services rendered;

(b) if so, since when and what amount is being paid annually; and

(c) what are the services rendered by the Bureau and in what way are those services utilised by our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has been paying to the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux its membership contribution since 1929. The annual Indian contribution varies from year to year. For 1984-85 the amount paid was £ 107,496.

(c) India receives free of cost in a year 29 copies each of 22 abstracting journals every month, which are distributed to the various research Institutions all over the country and the approximate monetary value of which in the market is around £ 1,50,000. Besides, as a member of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux (CAB), the Government of India enjoys the benefit of 33 percent rebate on all CAB publications purchased by different institutions in the country. Another major benefit of the Membership is the free identification service of pests/diseases of various types of plants and animals through the three Research Institutes of the CAB, which benefit is being enjoyed liberally by all scientific institutions in India without any payment.

The other area where India has drawn heavily on the CAB expertise is in respect of continued collaboration with the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control. As a result of the sustained collaboration between this Station and Indian scien-