

Governments by the Central Government on 100 per cent basis. During the Sixth Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs. 600 crores was proposed out of which Rs. 100 crores was for 1983-84 while Rs. 500 crores was for 1984-85. It was expected that 60 million mandays of employment would be generated during 1983-84 and 300 million mandays during 1984-85. While during 1983-84 an amount of Rs. 100 crores was released to the State/Union Territory Governments for the implementation of the programme, during 1984-85 only Rs. 400 crores was provided in the budget.

Under the RLEGP, the Central Sanctioning Committee has upto date approved 314 projects involving an estimated cost of approximately Rs. 904.37 crores. The assets created under these projects will be the durable ones which will strengthen the rural infrastructure and lead to a growth of the rural economy. This Programme has also led to the expansion of employment opportunities in rural areas. While employment is being given to the landless labourers along with other rural unemployed, there is, however no guideline for identification of the landless workers which is expected to be done at the local level. However, a pilot scheme to issue household cards to landless workers under the RLEGP is under consideration to facilitate monitoring of this point.

**Project financed by International Development Association and National Cooperative Development Council**

630. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a massive project, financed by the International Development Association and the National Cooperative Development Council, is likely to be commissioned shortly in various States;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the project is likely to streamline the activities of co-operatives in the country?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):** (a) and (b) A project called "National Cooperative Development Corporation—III Project" has been approved by International Development Association of the World Bank for a credit of US \$220 Million for implementation by cooperatives in 9 States. The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 505.44 crores, of which Rs. 237.60 crores would be available from IDA. The IDA funds would be made available by the Government of India to NCDC. The cost of the project would be shared amongst the NCDC, the State Governments and the participating co-operatives according to the agreed financing pattern. The project envisages construction of 7779 rural godowns with a total storage capacity of 15.7 lakh tonnes in six States, implementation of an integrated soyabean production and processing programme involving setting up of 3 seed processing plants and 4 solvent extraction plants in 2 States, setting up of 4 cotton seed extraction plants in 4 States, 11 cotton ginning units and 5 cotton spinning mills in 5 States and intensive specialised programme of training of personnel of co-operatives under these projects. The project would be implemented over a period of 5 years from 1984-85.

(c) The 4 components of the project fit into the Government approach to co-operative development for supporting agriculture through cooperatives for providing package of services to the farmers for both input delivery as well as marketing of output. The objectives of the project is thus to strengthen the co-operatives in these States and increase their capability for providing services to the farmers.