

sidering any proposal to give any assistance/grants to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR):

(a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) Housing, being a State subject, all the Social Housing Schemes are being implemented by the State, Government. The Union Government provides the financial assistance in the shape of block loans and block grants without being tied up to any particular scheme.

Autonomous Status for AIR and Doordarshan

1413. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give autonomous status to Doordarshan and All India Radio; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of entertainment programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) As a result of various steps taken by the Ministry, several new programmes and serials have been introduced in Doordarshan recently. All India Radio Stations regularly broadcast programmes based on classical and light classical music, humorous plays, songs from films etc; which have considerable entertainment value.

Proposals for Setting up of All India Radio Stations

14H. SHRI S. W. DHABE;

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO;

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The number of proposals/requests pending with Government for setting up All India Radio Stations;

(b) the details of such proposals; and

(c) by when they are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL):

(a) to (c) Periodically, proposals are made by State Governments and others for setting up new Radio Stations to provide coverage to uncovered places including remote areas and for improving the existing coverage. Examples of the former are the requests for a Station to cover the Jaintia Hills District in Meghalaya, Kokrajhar in Assam, Kavaratti in Lakshadweep, Car Nicobar in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Barmer and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan etc. Requests have also been made for extending the level of coverage from Stations like Port Blair, Kohima, Shimla-etc;

The question whether it would be possible to implement these proposals would be known after the Seventh Five Year Plan proposals are finalised.

Rice Productivity in Madhya Pradesh

1415. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of rice in Madhya Pradesh is lowest in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the major causes are low fertilizer consumption, inadequate production credit and seed supply;

(c) what has been the supply of these inputs during the past three years in Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to improve supply of these inputs in the State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUIA SINGH): (a) and (b) Productivity of rice in Madhya Pradesh is among the lowest in the country. This is primarily due to inadequate irrigation coverage, as a result of which fertilizer intake and HYV coverage are also low.

(c) The supply of various inputs during the past three years in Madhya Pradesh is given below-

Inputs	Unit	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (Estimated/ Anticipated)
Fertilizer Consumption	Lakh Tonnes	2-43	3-15	3-92
Distribution of certified/quality seeds of paddy	Thousand Qtls.	25-38	21-54	25.29
Credit Supply— Short term loans (Cooperatives)	Rs. in Crores	135-23	13905 (Target) (P) - Provisional	185.00 (P)

(d) The Government have already envisaged stepping up the supply of fertilizers for the coming Kharif season by 51.6 per cent over that in Kharif 1984. Arrangements have been tied up with the indigenous manufacturers and the pool handling agencies for supply of indigenous and imported fertilisers to meet the requirements of the State.

In order to boost seed distribution in the States, the Government of India have formulated a 1 (Point Action Programme for increasing the production of Breeder, Foundation and Certified seeds during the Seventh Plan.

Similarly, efforts have been made to increase the financial assistance under non-irrigation cover scheme to District Central Cooperative Banks in Madhya Pradesh to augment the flow of production credit.

Oi) Seeds Development in Madhya Pradesh

1416. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes for development of oil seeds in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what are the item-wise outlays earmarked for them separately for the current year and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to bring out uniformity in the different programmes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A National Oilseeds Development Project is under implementation in Madhya Pradesh for the development of oilseeds, namely, rapeseed-mustard, soyabean, groundnut, niger and sesamum.