

Allotment of Foodgrains Under NREP

2037. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total food grains, rice and wheat separately allotted to each State under the National Rural Employment Programme year-wise from 1977-78 to 1982-83;

(b) the total foodgrains, wheat and rice separately, actually supplied to each State, year-wise from 1977-78 to 1982-83; and

(c) what is the State-wise total mandays created during 1977-78 to 1982-83?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): (a) Statement I indicating the quantity of foodgrains allocated/released to each State under Food for Work Programme National Rural Employment Programme from 1977-78 to 1982-83 is enclosed. [See Appendix CXXV, Annexure No. 86.]

(b) Statement II indicating the quantities of foodgrains actually supplied to the States year-wise is also enclosed [See Appendix CXXV, Annexure No. 87.]

(c) State-wise total mandays generated during these years are indicated in Statement III enclosed. [See Appendix CXXV, Annexure No. 88.]

Failure of Rabi Crops

2038. SHRI RAMESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in many States rabi crops have failed contrary to Central Government's optimistic forecasts and estimates;

(b) whether it is a fact despite that forecasts of maximum production

the methodology used is incorrect which has led to shortages in wheat, milk and oilseed, leading to imports and shortages; and

(c) whether Government propose to improve the present methodology for crop production forecasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir. The reports received from most of the States promise a very good rabi crop this season.

(b) and (c) Methodology utilised in estimating production of agricultural commodities in most of the States and Union Territories is objective and has been developed in consultation with the experts and is being reviewed from time to time to introduce further refinements for increasing the precision of the estimates. Thus, there is no reason to believe that forecasts put forward by the Government agencies have led to any shortages etc.

Failure of Cattle/Poultry Insurance Schemes

2039. SHRI RAMESHWAR SINGH: SHRI ABDUL REHMAN SHEIKH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Cattle/Poultry Insurance Schemes have been unsuccessful and these are being widely misused in some areas; and if so, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): The Schemes of Cattle and Poultry Insurance have been making satisfactory progress. The Insurance Companies have recruited Veterinary Officers to render specialised help to ensure orderly progress of the Schemes, effective control and loss minimisation. However, Government are always vigilant to take remedial measures whenever found necessary.