

(b) (i) The following steps have been taken to bring additional area and improvement of existing plantation under cashew through the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme on the Package Programme or Development of Cashewnut. It is in operation during the Sixth Five Year Plan period at a total cost of Rs. 544 lakhs in the cashew growing States.

(ii) A World Bank financed Multi-State Cashew Project is in operation in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa over a period of 5 years from 1980 with an outlay of Rs. 38.36 crores.

(c) The district-wise information pertaining to Centrally Sponsored Scheme on the Development of Cashewnut is not available. The World Bank Multi-State Cashew Project is in operation in the districts of Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Balasore, Dhankanal, Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam. The project envisages bringing additional areas under cashew and also to improve existing cashew orchards.

It is proposed to bring an area of 15,500 hectares under new planting and 2500 hectares under improvement of existing plantations spread over all the above districts during the project period.

Release of milk products under the operation flood I and II

2792. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DMS is running in losses largely due to non-issue of cheap milk powder and butter-oil by IDC which is being freely issued to dairy plants run by NDDB/IDC in Delhi, Calcutta and Patna etc.;

(b) what are the total releases under O.P. I & II for the last three years; and

(c) whether it is a fact that NDDB/IDC is issuing milk products to Guja-

rat dairies in preference to other States as seen by the releases under O.P. I & II for the last three years; and if so, the reasons for such discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drought-prone Areas Programme

2793. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended the drought prone areas programme to 510 blocks covering 69 districts in 13 States and

(b) if so, the names of the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): (a) The Drought Prone Areas Programme has been extended 142 blocks in 11 States from the current financial year. The programme is continued in 368 blocks in 13 States. Thus, the programme now covers 510 blocks in 70 districts (including the newly created district of Jalna in Maharashtra) in 13 States.

(b) The names of the States are:—

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Bihar
3. Gujarat
4. Haryana
5. Jammu and Kashmir
6. Karnataka
7. Madhya Pradesh
8. Maharashtra
9. Orissa
10. Rajasthan
11. Tamil Nadu
12. Uttar Pradesh and
13. West Bengal.