

(iii) Launching of massive programme for wheat-arhar rotation in the Northern States and involvement of Agricultural Universities and private sector in popularising this rotation in different States.

(iv) Intensification of 'Lab-to-Land' Programme and pest management at the Village level.

(v) Popularisation of cultivation of Arhar in rabi season in Eastern Plains of West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(vi) Diversion of upland rainfed rice areas in Bihar to Soyabean--Arhar Production.

(vii) Strengthening of production of breeders/foundation seed of improved varieties of pulses.

(viii) Mass production of rhizobium culture strains with proper quality control.

(ix) Testing of potentialities for new pulse crops like broad-beans, rice-beans, moth etc.

(x) Popularisation of rural storage of pulse by the farmers in optimum conditions so as to preserve the produce without damage.

(xi) Adoption of 'Pulse Villages' by Private Sector in close collaboration with Government agencies.

(c) Government has yet to examine the suggestions. However, work on most of the suggestions brought out in the Symposium, has already been in progress.

Assistance to Foreign Countries for Dairy Development

2395. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries that have sought help from the National Dairy Development Board in Gujarat

for developing their dairy industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the nature of assistance given to them by the National Dairy Development Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). Many developing countries have approached the National Dairy Development Board in Gujarat for assistance in the field of dairying. The assistance has been rendered for planning dairy projects and/or training officers from Mauritius, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangla Desh, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Philippines, Malaysia, Tanzania, Uganda, Trinidad and Tobago. At the request of the World Bank and European Economic Community, National Dairy Development Board's expertise in the field of dairy development has been provided to Pakistan and Philippines respectively. Similar requests from Sri Lanka, Bangla Desh and Saudi Arabia have also been received by the National Dairy Development Board. At present, the nature of assistance provided by National Dairy Development Board is limited to manpower development and review of dairy sector and planning of dairy projects.

Water Technology Centre of I.A.R.I.

2396. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and the specific categories of employees in the Water Technology Centre of I.A.R.I., Pusa, New Delhi;

(b) the number of workers employed as casual or permanent labour which are also working as technical hands in the Centre;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of workers of the Water Technology Centre are mostly engaged in

doing private work neglecting their official duties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government propose to take against such employees of the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The number of employees in the various categories in the Water Technology Centre of I.A.R.I. is given below:—

Scientific—32

Technical—31

Administrative—18

Supporting—54

(b) One casual labour has been engaged on daily basis as Key-punch Operator.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Representations of staff pending with FCI

2397. SHERMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2877 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th August, 1982 and state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India has since examined the clarifications received by it in respect of the cases relating to two representations in regard to regularisation of the absence from duty for more than five years on medical grounds, which were received by it through its Zonal Office at Calcutta;

(b) if so, whether the cases have since been decided on merits and the details of the decisions taken in those two cases; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MISS KAMLA KUMARI): (a) to (c). The matter is still under examination of the management of the Corporation with reference to certain further clarifications called for from their Zonal Office.

NDDB's Dairy Plant at Anand

2398. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of milk and milk products at the Dairy Plant of the National Dairy Development Board at Anand during the last three years;

(b) the quantum of milk procured by it from the milk producers during the last three months;

(c) the quantum of cheese, butter, milk powder and other milk products which were produced and exported by the National Dairy Development Board during the last three years; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the Board through such export during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The dairy plant at Anand is not owned by the National Dairy Development Board.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Merger of D.M.S. and Mother Dairy

2399. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report in Statesman of 25th August, 1982 under the caption 'Punjab Plan to merge two milk Organisations'; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government also propose to merge the