

The Government are also examining the feasibility of establishing a Fisheries Corporation to undertake deep sea fishing.

Allocation of wheat under "National Rural Employment Programme"

246. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of wheat allotted and actually supplied to each State during 1980-81 and 1981-82 as Centre's share in the "National Rural Employment Programme";

(b) whether during recent months wheat supply on this account to some States like West Bengal has either been stopped or drastically reduced; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM):

(a) Statement I indicating the quantities of wheat, rice and coarse grains allocated to the States/Union Territories during the year 1980-81 and 1981-82 is enclose. [See Appendix CXIX, Annexure No. 10]. Statement II indicating the quantities of foodgrains actually supplied to the States during 1980-81 and 1981-82 is also enclosed. [See Appendix CXIX, Annexure No. 11].

(b) and (c) Foodgrains are allocated to the States/Union Territories under the programme on the basis of their actual availability, wheat or rice is allotted keeping in view the eating habits of the local population. Despite tight position of food stocks, a quantity of 1.50 lakh MTs of Wheat/rice has been made to the States/Union Territories during the current year. The process of releasing the foodgrains begins after the allocations are made and is obviously spread over a period of time.

Construction of houses for economically weaker section in Pondicherry

247. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Housing Board, Pondicherry propose to construct houses for economically weaker section; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

248. [Transferred to the 28th August, 1981].

Scarcity conditions prevailing in the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh

249. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the scarcity conditions prevailing in the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the two State Governments have sought financial assistance from the Centre; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) On the basis of the reports of the Central teams which visited Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh during 1980-81 and 1981-82 and the recom-