

The High Level Committee on Relief endorsed the recommendations of the Central Team about the ceilings of expenditure. On the basis of the report of the Central team and the recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief thereon, the Government of India have approved a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 1272.14 lakhs for the purposes of grant of Central assistance of the Government of Assam.

The reports of the Central Teams on floods are not laid on the Table of the House.

All India Body for Hotel Management

1873. SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to amalgamate four Institutes of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Nutrition at New Delhi, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta to set up an All India Body to conduct common courses of study in these institutes with uniform system of entrance etc. in these Institutes;

(b) if so, what are the broad features of the scheme; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A proposal for setting up of an all-India Body to guide and coordinate the various types of studies and research in the field of food management, hotel management, catering technology and applied nutrition and allied skills and crafts is under consideration. This will also include introduction of common courses of study in these Institutes with uniform system of examinations etc.

(b) and (c). The details of the scheme are under consideration.

Composition of the ASRB

1874. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the composition of the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board is proposed to be change to include two nominees of the President of ICAR Society; and

(b) if so, whether the ICAR Governing Body was Consulted in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b) No, Madam. There is no proposal to change the composition of the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board. The Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board constitutes Selection Committees for making selections to various posts. These Selection Committees consist of experts in the disciplines concerned and a representative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research besides the Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board or his nominee. On the recommendations of the Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha in their 35th Report, recently a number of improvements have been introduced in the working of Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board. One of the changes introduced in consultation with the Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board and with the approval of the Government is that for scientific posts, in the scale of Rs. 2000-2500 and above, the Selection Committees will consist of two experts nominated by the Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board and two experts nominated by the President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research from a panel of eminent and appropriate experts submitted by the Director General. In addition, each Selection Committee would have a representative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as provided