

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been sent by Government of Madhya Pradesh (Fish Farmers Development Agency) for implementation of development of aquatic life in the running fresh water; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal would be accorded sanction and funds would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme— “Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture”, for construction of ponds etc. A sum of Rs. 60 lakh as first installment has already been released to the State Government.

Houses for Fishermen

†3370. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal to Central Government for construction of houses for fishermen of the State under Fishermen Welfare fund being sponsored by the Central Government; and

(b) if so, by when the sanction would be accorded and fund would be released according to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal for construction of houses etc. for fishermen under the Centrally Sponsored ‘National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen’. The proposal could not be considered as it was incomplete and was not submitted as per the requirements of the scheme.

Purchase of farm land abroad to produce pulses and oilseeds

3371. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hooda Committee constituted by Government has suggested to encourage Indian companies to buy farm lands in other countries for producing pulses and edible oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In order to insulate the people, particularly the poor, from rapid rise in prices of food and essential commodities, the Government constituted a ‘Core Group’ which *inter-alia* constituted “Work Group on Agriculture Production” under the chairmanship of Chief Minister, Haryana, The recommendations of the Working Group have not been finalised.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.