of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. Further, for non-agricultural purposes, as far as possible, land with low biological potential for farming should be earmarked and allocated.

Dairy Venture Capital Fund

560. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the Dairy Venture Capital Fund for promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment in rural areas;
- (b) the details of loans provided to people under the above scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;
 - (c) whether NABARD is helping to promote the above scheme; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Dairy Venture Capital funds aims at promoting entrepreneurship and self employment in rural areas by providing credit assistance to private individuals, NGOs, Self Help Groups, Business Firms, Dairy Cooperatives societies at village level and Milk Unions for selected components of dairy sector, namely, establishment of small dairy farms, purchase of milking machines/milk-o-tester/Bulk Milk Cooler, Dairy processing equipments for indigenous milk products, dairy product transport facilities including cold chain, cold store facilities for milk and milk products and establishment of private veterinary clinics.

(b) The details of interest free loan assistance sanctioned under the scheme during the last three years in Andhra Pradesh is given below

Rs. Lakh

District	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Units	Amount	Units	Amount	Units	Amount
Adilabad	(H)	-	Ĩ	1.5	 c	_
Karimnagar	2	3.00	7	10.50	3	4.50
Mahabubnagar	1	1.50	=	2 5 2	===	=
Nizamabad	12	18.00	Η	12	-	프
Warangal	(E)		=	2000 2000	1	1.50
TOTAL	15	22.50	8	12.00	4	6.00

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. NABARD is helping to promote the scheme by issuing guidelines of the scheme and communicating it to financing banks, conducting State level workshops for the stakeholders, conducting meetings of bankers to discuss the scheme at State, district and block levels, conducting district level workshop to promote Government sponsored programmes under which this scheme is also discussed.