

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. A report to this effect was published in the Times of India dated the 25th April, 1977.

(b) The report of the ICAR Inquiry Committee headed by Shri P. B. Gajendra-gadkar was examined in depth by the Govt. of India with the assistance of a groups of Ministers consisting of late Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, then Minister of Agriculture, Shri C. Subramaniam, Prof. S. Nurul Hasan and Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha. The recommendations of the Committee have already been implemented with such modifications as considered necessary by the Government of India. However, if any specific problems in this regard are brought to the notice of Government, these can be examined.

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

187. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have held any negotiations with the Government of New Zealand recently for the development of dairy industry in India; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

INDO-US SUB-COMMISSION ON EDUCATION AND CULTURE

188. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to initiate any new programme under the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Education and Culture; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER) : (a) and (b) The third meeting of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Education and

Culture, which was held in New Delhi on May 25-26, 1977, chalked out a programme of collaboration on the lines of the previous years. The programme envisages exchange of Fellowships and Visitorships, Joint Bi-National Seminars, Exchanges of Exhibitions, Museum Personnel, Films etc.

FINANCIAL AID TO VICTIMS OF DROUGHT IN ANDHRA PRADESH

189. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have received a request from the Andhra Pradesh Government for financial aid to meet the situation created by drought in that State; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the decision of the Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

DAMAGE TO CROPS IN PUNJAB

190. SHRI RAGHBIR SINGH GILL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the recent rains rabi crop in Punjab has been damaged;

(b) if so, what is the extent of damage caused to the crop; and

(c) whether Government propose to give relief to the farmers, whose crops have been damaged; if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Govt. has reported that crops in 271 villages covering an area of 62635 acres have been damaged upto 29.4.1977.

(c) The State Government have decided to disburse relief to the landowners/tenants in cash on a sliding scale depending on the damage caused to their crops. They have also decided to grant distress