that the seats will remain vacant if no such candidates are available and it will not be transferred to the general quota. Due to the continuous efforts taken, the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes students admitted in Indian Agricultural Research Institute has increased during the last two academic years namely, 1971-72 and 1972-73. In 1972-73, 23 scheduled castes/scheduled tribes students were admitted.

The progress of each student is watched by an Advisory Committee. The Dean and Joint Director of Indian Agricultural Research Institute is the Co-chairman of the Advisory Committees in respect of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes candidates for keeping a special watch on the progress of these students and taking remedial action at the appropriate stage.

Currently, there are 53 scheduled castes/scheduled tribes students on rolls as M.Sc. and Ph.D. students in the Post-Graduate School of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.


DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS IN RAJASTHAN

1515. SHRI K. C. PANDA: SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: SHRI DAHAYABHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state,

(a) whether as a result of drought several parts of Rajasthan were severely affected leading to a number of starvation deaths;
(b) the details of areas so affected by the drought; and
(c) the Central aid actually provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) Out of 24 districts affected by drought this year, the districts affected more severely are Ajmer, Bangwara Bikaner, Durgaipur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Sikar, Sirsi, Junhunu, and Udaipur. The State Government has reported that there has been no death due to starvation.

(c) On the basis of the recommendations made by the Central Study Teams which visited the State in May and November, 1972, a ceiling of expenditure for the purpose of central financial assistance of Rs. 6.60 crores has been adopted, against which an amount of Rs. 5 crores has been released to the State Government so far. Another Central team has visited Rajasthan in February, 1973. Its report is awaited.


TAKING OVER OF CLOSED SUGAR MILLS IN BIHAR

1517. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take over the closed Sugar Mills in Bihar; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) No such proposal is under consideration.
(b) Does not arise.

ILLEGAL EXPORT OF SCULPTURES TO U.S.


Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial in the