

ज़िलों में योजनाओं को बनाने और उनकी शीघ्र स्वीकृति कराने के उद्देश्य से केन्द्रीय दल सम्बन्धित राज्यों का दौरा करते रहे हैं। इस कार्यक्रम के लिये चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में 25 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई है।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHB SHINDE): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

The question of formulation and implementation of suitable schemes of a lasting benefits in the arid and semi-arid areas in the country has been under the active consideration of the Govt. of India for some time now. No special Study Team has been appointed by the Government of India to go into the question of making dry and desert lands in U.P., Bihar and Rajasthan fertile or to assist in the development of desert areas in the country with the help of Israeli scientists.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is, however, initiating a Coordinated Research Project for Dry Land Agriculture at an estimated cost of Rs. 147.50 lakhs for a period of four years. This project will become operative w.e.f. 1-9-70. The study under the scheme will pay special attention to water harvesting, efficient use of stored water in soil, breeding drought resistant or escaping varieties of crops and agronomic practices suitable for low soil moisture conditions. It will have 15 Main Centres, eight Sub-Centres representing different agro-climatic and soil conditions in India. In addition, a special Centre for undertaking fundamental studies on Plant Physiology as related to Dry Farming is provided under the scheme.

A scheme for Integrated Dry Land Agricultural Development has also been sanctioned for implementation during the Fourth Plan period. The total number of projects during the Fourth Plan period will be 24, but 9 projects being taken up during 1970-71 in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mysore, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. These pilot projects will be located around main or sub-research centres of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and will serve as Demonstration-cum-training projects.

So far as desert areas in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana are concerned, pilot projects are also being taken up for their development on a long term basis, by undertaking works of soil conservation, minor irrigation, afforestation, pasture development, etc. The approach is to take up specified items of work, depending on the suitability of the area selected in compact and well defined areas. Schemes costing Rs. 103.40 lakhs have already been sanctioned in these three States.

A non-plan scheme with the objective of organising schemes of a long term productive nature and also to provide remunerative work to rural labour in such areas so that emergent scarcity relief works are avoided after some years is being undertaken in the remaining four years of the Fourth Five Year Plan at a cost of Rs. 100 crores. So far 23 districts in seven States have been selected and the question of selection of additional districts is now under consideration. Central Teams have been visiting the concerned States to expedite formulation and early sanction of schemes in the already selected districts. A budget provision of Rs. 25.00 crores has been made for the current financial year, for this programme.]

ASSESSMENT IN RELATION TO THE AGRARIAN PROBLEMS

*289. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 500 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th May, 1970 and state:

(a) whether Government have since made any assessment of the situation in relation to the agrarian problems with particular reference to distribution of lands among landless and poor peasants, and recovery of the lands transferred in mala fide manner;

(b) if so, the broad features of the assessment; and

(c) the action taken or contemplated to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (AND CO-OPERATION) (SHRI ANNASAHB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Government have issued instructions for immediate and systematic implementation of land reform measures incorporated in the West Bengal Estates

Acquisition Act and West Bengal Land Reforms Act. Instructions have also been issued for intensifying the drive for detection of surplus land and lands held malafide or fictitious transfers (benami). Action has already been taken for amending the West Bengal Land Reforms Act with a view to safeguarding the interests of bargadars. Proposals are being finalised for revising the ceiling provisions.

GRANTS FOR RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE

*290. SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) What are the names of the units in India which are receiving grants for research in Agriculture from the Government of U.S.A.;

(b) what is the total amount of grant received so far; and

(c) whether any such grants have been received from other countries also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Grants for Agricultural Research is received from the U.S. Government under PL 480 funds. These grants are received by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Universities, Colleges and other research Institutes.

(b) The total number of research projects sanctioned so far is 297 with a total outlay of Rs. 96 crores approximately.

(c) No. But discussions with some other countries are in progress for securing collaboration and assistance in agricultural research.

DEVELOPING SEA FISHING IN BAY OF BENGAL

*291. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN:

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to survey the Bay of Bengal to locate deep sea fishing areas there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a vessel has been purchased from the German Democratic Republic for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what progress has been made so far in developing sea fishing in the eastern region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The Government of India is strengthening the Deep Sea Fishing Organisation which has as one of its major objectives survey of the marine fish resources off the Indian Coast. The Bay of Bengal is also covered under the programme for intensification of these surveys.

(b) A vessel manufactured in the German Democratic Republic has been added to the Survey Fleet of the Deep Sea Fishing Organisation and will shortly be deployed in the Bay of Bengal for undertaking survey in this area.

(c) The vessel is a stern trawler suitable for exploration of deep sea bottom grounds. It has a length of 106 ft. and an engine of 552 H.P.

(d) Surveys of resources have been carried out from bases in Visakhapatnam and Tuticorin. 1,545 mechanised boats upto 36 ft. length are already operating on the East Coast. Cold storage and freezing facilities have been provided at several ports on this Coast. Fishing harbours have also been sanctioned at some ports on the East Coast and proposals for more harbours are under consideration. Import licence for two vessels has been issued to a firm proposing to operate from the East Coast.

किसानों को कृषि उपकरणों के प्रयोग का प्रशिक्षण

*292. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसानों और उनके वच्चों को उनके अपने ही गांवों में कृषि सम्बन्धी उपकरणों तथा तकनीक का प्रशिक्षण देने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस बात का पता लगाने के लिये कोई अनुसंधान किया है कि इस प्रकार मौके पर दिया गया प्रशिक्षण बेरोजगारी को दूर करने में कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों में स्नातकों को दिये जाने वाले प्रशिक्षण की अपेक्षा अधिक उपयोगी सिद्ध होगा ?