

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : Reports had been received that considerable damage had been caused to the wheat, particularly the harvested crop still awaiting threshing, by untimely and successive spells of heavy rains in the months of May and June in the States of Punjab, Haryana, some parts of Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh. Actual statistics of damage are not available except in regard to following States :—

U.P.—Loss to grain and fodder has been to the extent of 5 to 25%.

Haryana—Over-all loss of about 3% has been estimated.

Punjab—Grain and fodder were spoiled to the extent of 10% to 33% in four districts of the State, viz. Hoshiarpur, Rupar, Ludhiana and Patiala.

Delhi—Only 3% to 5% of the unthreshed crop was partly damaged.

ALL INDIA RURAL CREDIT REVIEW REPORT

1467. SHRI PHOOL SINGH :

DR. DEBIPRASAD CHAT-
TOPADHYAYA :

DR. (MRS) MANGLADEVI
TALWAR :

SHRI DALPAT SINGH :

SHRI P. S. PATIL :

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of the All India Rural Credit Review Report 1969 to the following facts :—

(i) for every hundred households possessing less than half an acre of land, there are only 9 draft cattles;

(ii) for every 100 households possessing between half an acre of land

and one acre of land holdings there are 48 draft cattle;

(iii) for every hundred households possessing between 1 and 2½ acres of land holdings there are 98 draft cattle; and

(b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) Yes. According to the Report, for every hundred households, there were only 8 working cattle for holdings upto 0.49 acre, 43 those between 0.5 and 1.0 acre and 86 for those from 1.0 to 2.49 acres.

(b) Special measures have been taken by the Government of India for giving assistance to small and marginal farmers to obtain credit from institutional sources for improving their agriculture. The Plan outlay on the Scheme for the development of small and marginal farmers has recently been increased from Rs. 30 crores to Rs. 115 crores. Under this Scheme 46 Pilot Projects for the development of small farmers and 40 Pilot Projects for the development of marginal farmers and agricultural labourers will be set up in selected districts throughout the country. Among other things the Scheme provides for support to cooperative banks and other institutions to facilitate the extension of short, medium and long term credit to small and marginal farmers. Such credit will be available to them for various purposes including purchase of draught cattle and other equipment for improving agriculture.

GENERAL CODE FOR JOURNALISTS

1468. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government are considering to have a general code for journalists in the country;