

[25 August. 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

**Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers**

3271. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Scheme called Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among small farmers is under implementation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what facilities are being extended to small farmers under the scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers is under implementation since 1992-93 on All-India basis, including the State of Andhra Pradesh. Under the Scheme, subsidy at the rate of 30% of the cost, limited to Rs.30,000/-, is available to all categories of farmers, including small farmers, individually or in groups, registered co-operative societies, multi-purpose agricultural farming societies, agricultural credit societies for the purchase of tractors of upto 30 Power Take Off Horse Power (PTOHP) alongwith matching implements upto three in number. Under the scheme, funds amounting to Rs. 641.10 lakh have been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh since 1992-93 till 31.3.2000 and 1486 tractors have been subsidised.

**Fodder for Milch Animals**

3272. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the availability of dry and green fodder for milch animals in the country and in Orissa;

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to narrow the demand-supply gap; and

(c) the daily calorie required for a milch animal and supply of the same in dry and drought prone areas of Orissa?