

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No such proposal has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is encouraging construction of cold storages under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Horticulture Mission through National Horticulture Board. So far, assistance has been provided for construction of 152 cold storages with a capacity of 5.0 lakh metric tonnes in the State of Andhra Pradesh for storage of horticulture commodities and processed products.

Yield of sugarcane

†3663. SHRI KANJIBHAI MAGANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the provision made in 2006-07 for increasing the yield of sugarcane; and

(b) the details of grant to be provided to the States for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) To increase the production and productivity of sugarcane, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) under Macro Management of Agriculture is implemented in 23 States/Union Territories namely: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, West Bengal and Pondicherry. The scheme provides assistance for field demonstrations, training of farmers and extension workers, farm implements/machinery, heat treatment plants, production of planting material and drip irrigation.

An allocation of Rs. 1624.85 lakh has been made by different States in their Work Plan for above scheme under Macro Management of Agriculture for the year 2006-07.

Besides, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is providing soft loans to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for cane development in mill areas for production of planting material, irrigation purposes, incentive to farmers for switching over to improved varieties, ratoon management, tissue culture laboratories etc. An amount of Rs. 2500 lakh has been kept in the budget estimate of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution for above purpose for the year 2006-07.

Fishery at Hirakund

†3664. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 140 species of fish have become extinct in the Hirakund dam during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that Hirakund based Indian Fisheries Research Center, being run by the Central Government, has been closed down; and

(d) if so, whether any scheme has been formulated to rehabilitate 4000 families who are earning their livelihood with fisheries and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) As per the survey report of April 1992 of Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR), Barrackpore, a total of 86 fish species belonging to 20 families were recorded during early fifties. Of this, 24 species were of economical significance. The survey in 1992 identified 40 fish species comprising the commercial fishery in Hirakund reservoir, which included carps (9 Nos.), catfishes (12 Nos.), featherbacks (2 Nos.), live-fishes (5 Nos.), prawns (1 No.) and miscellaneous species (11 Nos.). Thus, it seems unlikely that 140 species of fish have become extinct in Hirakund dam during the past 10 years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is a proposal to close down the Research Centre of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR) located at Burla (Orissa) subject to the verdict of the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa.

(d) Does not arise.

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