

production of rice to meet the future requirement as the North, Western states of Punjab and Haryana may not sustain the highest production in long run due to over exploitation of natural resources.

The programme of Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), a sub Scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been launched from 2010-11 in eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Eastern U.P and West Bengal. The objective of the programme is to increase the productivity of rice based cropping system by intensive cultivation through promotion of recommended agriculture technology and package of practices by addressing the underlying constraints of different agro climatic sub regions.

Besides, National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana and Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Rice (ICDP-Rice) are also being implemented in the above eastern States to increase the production of rice.

#### **Subsidy on high speed diesel for fishermen**

3285. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has requested for providing subsidy on high speed diesel to fishermen under Central Government Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operation Scheme; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries during the current plan period has released a sum of Rs.650.00 lakh to the Government of Maharashtra for providing rebate to fishermen on High Speed Diesel (HSD) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS). The central amount released includes Rs.450 lakh and Rs.200 lakh for fiscal year 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. The Government of Maharashtra has not submitted any proposals in the subsequent fiscal years.

#### **Incentives to improve production**

3286. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to introduce Special Agricultural Zones (SAZs) to protect agricultural land and provide food security in line with initiatives made in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government is planning to introduce special incentives to promote such large scale moves to improve agricultural production in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Agriculture is a 'State' subject and it is for the State Governments to decide, like the decision of the Government of Uttarakhand.

#### **Assistance to dairy co-operatives**

3287. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed financial condition of dairy co-operatives in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of such co-operatives functional/reported to be economically sick/closed down during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to revive the closed dairy co-operatives and provide financial assistance to those co-operatives reported to be economically sick; and

(d) if so, the details of financial assistance thereof along with the number of such closed/economically sick co-operatives benefited during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The Dairy Cooperatives are registered under the respective State Cooperative Societies Act. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) reviews the financial condition of the Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations which have been provided technical/financial assistance by NDDB.