

Implementation of guidelines of DoPT by ICAR

†323. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is complying with the guidelines of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India with regard to seniority and promotion of its staff;

(b) whether the officers of the Council (class-II/Group B) have superseded some officers of the Council itself (class-I/Group A) despite the decision taken by Union Cabinet on 29 April, 1997 for merger of the cadres of administrative staff of the Council; and

(c) if so, whether Government would take necessary steps to provide justice to the affected class-I officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) follows the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) guidelines/instructions on the subject of seniority and promotion. These instructions are made applicable to the employee of the Council *mutatis mutandis* in terms of the Bye-law 30 (a) of the ICAR Society.

(b) No such supersession has taken place.

(c) In view of position against point (a) and (b), No action is required.

Promoting sea food export

324. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan to shift from predominant capture fisheries to culture fisheries, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for development of the best quality of fish brood stock for promoting sea food export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' Scheme of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, a number of sub-components on culture fisheries have been incorporated with an aim of enhancing fish production and productivity.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Blue Revolution Scheme has a component on 'Establishment of freshwater/brackishwater fish/shrimp/trout Brood Banks. In order to encourage the availability of good quality broodstock in the country for shrimp aquaculture, Guidelines for regulating establishment and operation of Shrimp Broodstock Multiplication Centres (BMC) have been issued. Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA) under the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been permitted for operation of a shrimp BMC for *L. Vannamei* at Visakhapatnam. Besides, MPEDA has also initiated implementation of promotion of aquaculture of exportable variety of fish and shellfish.

Migration of farm labourers

325. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the impact of migration of farm labourers on the agricultural production during last year; and

(b) if so, the details of its impact on production and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no such impact assessment by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare during last year. During the year 2014-15 total foodgrain production was 252.02 million tonnes according to Final Estimates as compared to total foodgrains production of 252.22 million tonnes during 2015-16 according to the Fourth Advance Estimates.

The steps taken by the Government for higher production of foodgrains, *inter alia*, include: National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Soil Health Card under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Neem Coated Urea and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, etc.

Quitting of agriculture by farmers

326. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted a review to assess the number of farmers who have quit agriculture during each of the last three years in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Odisha;

(b) whether irregularity in providing compensation has depressed the farmers; and