

[20 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

the education & research needs in agriculture and allied subjects in the North Eastern Region of the country. In Tripura, at Lembucherra, Agartala, a College of fisheries is already in existence under Central Agricultural University.

(c) and (d) do not arise.

#### **Drought Assistance to Karnataka**

1798. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of the places which have been affected by current drought in Karnataka and what financial assistance has been given to the State for redressal of the grievances of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): The Government of Karnataka have informed that no places are affected by drought at present.

#### **Corpus and Operations of Consumer Welfare Fund**

1799. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount currently available with the Consumer Welfare Fund (CWF);

(b) what percentage of the available fund has been utilized during the last five years;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the ceiling on grant allocations to consumer organizations; and

(d) whether Government intend to simplify the operational procedures of the Consumer Welfare Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN):

(a) As on 31.7.2004, an amount of Rs. 75,89,09000/- is available in the Consumer Welfare Fund.

(b) Details are given in the Statement. (*See below*;

(c) No Sir.

(d) In pursuance of the directions of the Standing Committee on Consumer Welfare Fund, the schemes for consumer awareness, Jagriti Shivar Yojana and consumer clubs in schools/colleges under the Consumer Welfare Fund have been de-centralized. The State Governments/Uts have also been requested to set up their own Consumer Welfare Fund for which seed money will be granted from the consumer Welfare Fund. The allocation of grants to State Government/Uts will be made on the basis of the number of districts in the State.

**Statement**

*Utilization of Funds during the Last Five Years*

(Rs. in thousands)

Year	BE	RE	Actual Expendi- ture	%(Actual Expenditure with refere- nce to RE)
1999-2000	3,00,00	80,00	30,36	37.95%
2000-2001	2,00,00	2,00,00	74,03	39.01%
2001-2002	5,00,00	3,70,00	1,03,53	27.98%
2002-2003	5,00,00	4,00,00	3,52,85	88.21%
2003-2004	5,00,00	5,00,00	4,18,54	83.71%

**Adopting dairy markets of Pakistan and Sri Lanka**

1800. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:

DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is occupying top position in milk production at the international level with a good network of rural milk societies;

(b) if so, whether the National Dairy Development Board had planned Rs. 10 crore plant in Sri Lanka which was now importing 53,000 tonnes of milk powder annually;