

[23 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

Industry, Transport, Rural Development and Social Justice and Empowerment, in order to ensure a multi-sectoral response.

Development of Agriculture and Allied Sector of NER

*262. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the uniform guidelines formulated by Government for development of Agriculture and Allied Sector are not applied on ground level particularly in the North-Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to bring corrective measures?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A number of Centrally Sponsored & Central Sector Schemes are being implemented for the development of agriculture and allied sectors in the country including the North Eastern Region (NER) as per guidelines of the Programmes.

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing a number of generic programmes which also focus on the North-Eastern Region. The major schemes are given below:

Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA)—It comprises of 27 schemes related to production programmes of cereals, horticulture, sugarcane, jute agricultural mechanization and watershed development programmes.

Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Uttaranchal.

On farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India, which *inter alia* include the North Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur and Mizoram.

Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in North Eastern States.

These programmes are being implemented in accordance with the scheme's guidelines.

Further, DAC is providing 10 per cent of its Plan Outlay for implementation of various programmes for speedy development of agriculture in the NER. In the Annual Plan 2004-05, out of its Plan Outlay of Rs. 2650.00 crores, DAC has earmarked Rs. 265 crores for the NER as mandated.

Schemes for Jharkhand

†*264. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have some special plan for food processing industries in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked by Government for this purpose for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAJ): (a) to (c) The schemes of the Ministry are project-oriented and not State or area specific. An amount of Rs. 650. crore has been provided in the 10th Five Year Plan for implementation of these schemes in all the States/ UTs including Jharkhand. Promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries are also taken. A two-day seminar was recently held on 16th and 17th July, 2004 to create awareness of the programmes of the Ministry and encouragement of food processing industries. Plan schemes have already been formulated and financial assistance @ 25% for general and 33.33% for difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore is sanctioned for establishment of food parks which provide common facilities such as power supply, water supply, cold storage/ice plant, warehousing facilities, effluent treatment plant, quality control and analytical laboratories, training/conference facilities etc. Financial assistance is also provided for establishment, modernization and expansion of food processing units @ 25% and 33.33% of costs of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 75 lakhs in general and difficult areas respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.