

[7 December, 2000] RAJYA SABHA

8. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Coarse-Cereals Based Cropping System Areas
9. Special Jute Development Programme
10. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas
11. Balanced and Integrated use of Fertiliser
12. Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among small farmers
13. Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits
14. Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds
15. Development of Commercial Floriculture
16. Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
17. Development of Roots & Tuber Crops
18. Development of Cocoa & Cashew
19. Integrated Programme for Development of Spices
20. Development of Mushroom
21. Use of Plastics in Agriculture
22. Bee-Keeping
23. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas
24. Scheme for Foundation & Certified Seed Production of Vegetable Crops
25. Soil Conservation in Catchments of River Valley Projects & Flood Prone Rivers
26. Reclamation & Development of Alkali Soils
27. State Land Use Boards

**National policy regarding agricultural pension to old farmers**

1924. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to devise a national policy regarding agricultural pension to the old farmers on the line of old age pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESO NAIK): (a) to (c) Ministry of Rural Development is already implementing the National

Old Age Pension Scheme and Annapurna Scheme for the welfare of all old persons including farmers. In view of the above, no new scheme is visualised for the welfare of old farmers **at** present.

**Assistance for relief and rehabilitation programme in the cyclone affected districts of Orissa**

1925. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of central assistance sanctioned and released so far for implementing the relief and rehabilitation programme in the cyclone affected districts in Orissa since October, 1999;

(b) whether World Bank has also sanctioned fund for the above purpose;

(c) if so, the amount obtained from World Bank fund so far; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) During 1999-2000, Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) amounting to Rs. 42.50 crore was released to Orissa for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. In addition, Rs. 828.15 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) was released to the State for floods and 2 cyclones, including the Super cyclone.

(b) to (d) The World Bank has approved US \$ 46 million for the immediate phase of the Orissa cyclone project through an amendment to the Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project. The amendment is yet to be signed and no funds have, therefore, yet been obtained from the World Bank for this purpose.

**Minimum support price for Ragi (Millet)**

1926. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ragi (Millet) is the main crop in Southern Karnataka;