

farm level. Besides, improvement of food-grain storage structures and popularization of scientific storage structures like metal bins pucca kothis and RCC ring bins and other activities are carried out by Save Grain Campaign for the benefit of farmers.

The National Horticulture Board (NHB), which is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the following schemes for strengthening the post-harvest management infrastructure:—

- (i) Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/expansion/modernisation of Cold Storages/Storages for horticulture produce;
- (ii) Development of commercial horticulture through production and post harvest management of horticultural products.

These schemes would, inter-alia, help in checking losses in weight and quality of horticultural produce and thereby provide benefits to farmers.

Watershed Development Programmes

1922. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring all the watershed development programmes under single umbrella for its implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) total degraded land area rehabilitated since the implementation of the programme till date;

(d) whether NABARD has also set up any special fund for watershed development fund;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the progress made through this fund in current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal to bring all the Watershed Development

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Programmes under single umbrella for the purpose of implementation has been considered by the Committee of Secretaries (COS). The Committee decided that in the first instance, Planning Commission may prepare an inventory of all the watershed/treatment management schemes in operation at present whether as Central Schemes or Centrally Sponsored Schemes alongwith plan outlays and also bring up a paper evaluating in depth the performance of various soil conservation and watershed based schemes/projects.

Meanwhile, to bring about uniformity in implementation a "Common Approach for Watershed Development" has been jointly formulated and adopted by Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development, the two Ministries implementing major watershed development programmes in the country.

(c) Under the different Watershed Development Programmes being implemented by various Ministries/Department, 15.62 m.ha. degraded land area has been rehabilitated upto March, 2000.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) A Watershed Development Fund (WDF) for Rs. 200 crore comprising NABARD contribution of Rs.100 crore and matching contribution of Rs.100 crore by Ministry of Agriculture, has been established at NABARD with the objective of integrated watershed development in 100 priority districts through participatory approach. As per the programme of operation, 14 States will be covered in two Phases (6 States in Phase-I and 8 States in Phase-II). States in Phase-I include Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh and States in Phase-II include Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Two-third of the allocation from the WDF will be loan to the State Government at an interest rate of 9.5% for watershed development and remaining one-third will be for grant based activities covering promotional efforts and capacity building.

NABARD has entered into Memorand I of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra for their participation in the WDF, Government of Gujarat and

Maharashtra has been advised by the NABARD that loan of Rs. 20 crore each is available under WDF. So far, 3 capacity building projects (CBPs) in Gujarat and two CBPs in Orissa have been sanctioned by NABARD.

Crop Oriented Scheme

1923. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reorganize its crop-oriented schemes to avoid overlapping in their contents and differing subsidy pattern;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) schemes to be implemented for diversification of agriculture for its all-round development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) It has been decided to switchover from the conventional Schematic approach to Macro Management mode for providing assistance to States for development of agriculture, with immediate effect. The Scheme envisages integration of 27 Schemes into one Scheme for Supplcementation/Complementation of States' Efforts through Work Plans, which will give the flexibility to States to address the spec" problems faced by them, and avoid overlapping in the context f different schemes and aim for all-round development of agricultuer. . The details of 27 Centrally Sponsored Scheme, integrated into Macro Management Scheme, are given in the Statement.

Statement

List of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1. Assistance to Coop. Weaker Section
2. Assistance to Women Cooperatives
3. Non-overdue Cover Scheme
4. Agri. Credit Stabilisation Fund
5. Special Scheme for SOST
6. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice Based Cropping System Areas
7. Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas