

The project districts were primarily identified on the basis of problems associated with supply of drinking water. The problems identified were repeated drought, salinity, bacteriological contamination, source problem, high fluoride, chemical contamination, lowering of ground water etc.

(b) and (c). Five Mini Mission Project areas (districts) viz. Giridih, Singhbhum, Palamau, Rohtas and Sahibganj have already been taken up under National Drinking Water Mission. At present there is no proposal to take up any new district.

[English]

#### **Withdrawal of Super Powers from Indian Ocean**

2458 SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state—

(a) whether in view of the substantial reduction in troops by US and USSR in East European countries Government have taken up with the Super Powers to withdraw/reduce their presence from there from the Indian Ocean; and

(b) if so, their response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Subsidy on Certified Seeds under Special foodgrains Production Programme**

2459. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have

been extending the subsidy on certified seeds in rice-growing, maize-growing and bajra-growing districts in various States under Special Foodgrains Production Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the portion of subsidy borne by the State Governments during the last two years;

(c) whether there has been substantial increase in the acreage under rice-cultivation and production of rice;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there has been increase in the export of rice, if so the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Special Foodgrains Production Programme—Rice during 1988-89, the programme was implemented on 100% assistance to be shared equally between the Government of India and State Governments. From 1989-90, the pattern of assistance was modified to 75.25 between Government of India and concerned State Governments. Under SFPP Maize, assistance was provided as subsidy @ Rs. 150/- per quintal during 1988-89 and 1989-90. From 1990-91 subsidy has been provided @ Rs. 400/- per quintal on the distribution of certified seed of Maize and Bajra and @ Rs. 500/- per quintal on certified seed of hybrid Maize and Bajra. Bajra has been included under SFPP Programme from the current year. The entire expenditure is borne by the Government of India.

(c) and (d). Increase in acreage and production of rice has been as under:—