

(a) whether the post of Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research is lying vacant for the last six months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to fill up the post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Sir, Secretary to Government of India, Department of Agricultural Research & Education functions as Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Presently Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is holding the additional charge of the Department of Agricultural Research & Education.

(b) Union Public Service Commission has been requested to make selection for the post of Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agricultural Research & Education.

[*Translation*]

Study of Ground Water Resources in Drought Prone Areas of Bihar

79. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study about the ground water resources had been conducted in drought prone areas of Bihar during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Godda, Deodhar and Dumka districts of Bihar have been included in the ground water resources development scheme for 1990-91; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far in this

regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). Ground Water studies in drought prone areas of Bihar have already been completed. During 1990-91, Reappraisal Hydrogeological Survey in 3000 sq. km. area is in progress in Dumka District. Exploratory drilling for ground water is being carried out in drought prone Palamau and Godda Districts.

(c) and (d). The State Government plans and implements Water Resources projects for the development of available ground water resources.

[*English*]

Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Calicut

80. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology from Calicut to Cochin in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): Sir, There is a proposal to close down the research centre of the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology located at Calicut, but an Extension Cell of the Institute will continue to function at Calicut.

(b) The Research Centre has outlived its utility.