

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the spread of ravines;

(c) whether the Government propose to give ownership rights to the farmers of these areas to level these ravines and make them fertile;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) An area of about 39.75 lakh ha. is affected by ravines in the country. Out of this, an area of 5.79 lakh ha. (about 4.64 lakh ha. in U.P. and 1.5 lakh ha. in M.P.) falls in Bundelkhand region.

(b) Under a Centrally funded scheme of 100% Central Assistance to State Plans launched in 1987-88 for accelerated development of ravinous areas of U.P., M.P., 6330 ha. in U.P. and 4968 ha. in M.P. of Bundelkhand Region has been treated. As per the recommendation of the National Development Council, the scheme stands transferred to State Sector from 1990-91.

An integrated watershed Mangement programme in the ravenous areas of Chambal and Yamuna rivers of U.P. is in operation since 1987-88 with EEC assistance.

(c) to (e). The matter falls within the jurisdiction of the State Governments concerned.

Housing Projectors In Orissa

*339. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects under consideration of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) to solve the housing problems in rural and urban

areas of Orissa;

(b) whether HUDCO has accorded approval to these projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (d). As reported by HUDCO, a total number of 17 housing schemes as on 23rd July, 1992 for a loan amount of Rs. 28.12 crores have been forwarded by various agencies in Orissa for HUDCO's approval. Out of these, 10 schemes for a loan amount of Rs. 15.52 crores are pending with borrowing agencies for compliance of appraisal points and 7 rural housing schemes for a loan amount of Rs. 12.60 crores are under process.

Production of Spices

*340. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual demand and production of spices in the country during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the details and value of spices exported/proposed to be exported during the above period; and

(c) the incentives or assistance given or proposed to be given to encourage the production of spices?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The demand for spices in the country is not assessed. However, the production is given below:-

(Lakh tonnes)

1990-91	19.55
1991-29 (Prov.)	20.77
1992-93 (Anticipated)	21.97

(b) The quantity and value of spices exported is as under:-

	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i>
	<i>(M. T.)</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
1990-91	109,636	242.14
1991-92	130,567	362.04
1992-93	150,000	426.00

(c) An Integrated Scheme for the Development of Spices is being implemented in the Central Sector. Under this scheme, incentives and assistance is provided to spice growers in the form of quality subsidised Planting material, input kits, plant protection equipment etc., provision of irrigation facilities, demonstration plots and training to farmers on scientific processing.

An expenditure of Rs. 769.39 lakh was incurred for the above programmes during 1990-91 and 1991-92. These programmes are continued during the current year and in the VIII Plan period. The outlay for 1992-93 is Rs. 1200.00 lakh.

Situation in Kashmir Valley

*341. SHRI N.J. RATHVA:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-level meeting chaired by him was held in Jammu and Kashmir

during June, 1992 to review the situation in the Kashmir Valley;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the suggestions and recommendation made therein; and

(c) the follow-up action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In the meeting with officials, discussions on the overall situation in the State, including the efforts to contain terrorism, bringing about greater involvement of the people, matters concerning development of the State and problems of Kashmir migrants were held. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has stepped up its efforts in these directions.

Financial Assistance to States

*342. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ninth Finance