[Translation]

WHITE REVOLUTION

*215. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR : SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of European Economic Community and World Bank has reviewed the achievements of white revolution in the country;

(b) whether the team has recommended some corrective measures to boost the white revolution in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d), the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) to (d) A joint Europen Economic Community (EEC)-World Rank Review Mission visited the operation flood III project during February-March 1993. The Mission visited a number of milksheds where the operation flood III programme is under implementation and held discussions with the farmers and officials of the cooperatives. the State Governments and the National Dairy Development Board on the progress of the project.

In its report, the Review Mission has appreciated the pace of project implementation and the remarkable progress in disbursement of funds. besides expressing its satisfaction over the progress in creation of infrastructural facilities and the growth in milk procurement. A summary of the main recommendations of the Review Mission is given in Statement.

Government generally agrees with the recommendations.

Statement

Summary of Mission's Main Recommendations.

1. NDDB to continue its initiative to promote full compliance by State Federations and milk unions with the project's logal covenants relating to accounts and audits, preparation of annual plans, maintenance of adequate equity base and adburence to Operation Flood principles.

2. NDDB to provide a milk union-wise, service-wise annexure in the half-yearly reports citing indicative cost of services provided and cost recovery in the form of charges paid by members.

3. GOI to reimburse NDDB's claims expeditiously.

4. NDDB must continue its efforts to ensure that unions concentrate on reorganization and consolidation of the cooperative structure making it more effective and financially strong.

5. NDDB to ensure that FAO cooperative development suggestions, and identification and training of core cooperative development staff, which is a key constraint to expansion of cooperative development programme, are addressed.

6. Milk unions to ensure that appropriate producer prices for milk are offered during the lean and flush seasons.

7. Milkshed dairies to attempt to sell as much of the milk procured as liquid milk in their local markets and also increasingly focus on milk products. Specific milk marketing strategies should be formulated by cooperative dairies to enhance their liquid milk market share, focussing on quality of milk, distribution system adopted and the markets catered to.

8. Work on comparative building designs to modify and develop experimental booths to house these units to be initiated by NDDB's FAO counterpart team for Amul-3 project.

9. Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) to identify its team for operational training. This is imperative as the Gandhinagar dairy is expected to become operational in March 1994.

10. For the Kheda dairy, order placement for the cheese, whey protein and lactose plant at Kheda dairy to be expedited and NDDB to designate an FAO counterpart officer from the Process & Engineering group for the dairy's work. 11. NDDB to continue its efforts to improve the performance of field AI programme by focussing on cluster AI center concept, modernizing spern stations to facilitate semen packaging using the French ministraw system and training AI workers.

12. NDDB to ascertain areas where FAO consultants can make useful contributions and amounts required for future FAO consultancies.

13. NDDB to continue to make efforts to address issues relating to project dairies (transfer of facilities to milk unions, milk pricing, staffing, working capital, equity).

14. NDDB to ensure implementation of FAO suggestions relating to powder plants efficiency improvement and upgrading the Quality Assurance Programme.

LOCUST CONTROL

*216. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether locust swarms have been noticed in Rajasthan and Gujarat recently which have caused damage to the standing crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control the spread of these locust swarms to other States ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. BALRAM JAKHAR) (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. Locust swarms have entered Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur and Jalore districts in Rajasthan and Banaskantha & Kutch districts in Gujarat.

Effective control measures have been taken to ensure that locust swarms do not cause damage to the standing crops.

- (1) Deployment of ground control teams for monitoring the locust activity and for undertaking control operations in the locust infested areas.
- (2) Providing plant protection equipment and pesticides to the village level committees/farmers in the locust infested areas for controlling locust.
- (3) Mobilisation of additional manpower, equipment, vehicles and pesticides.
- (4) Deployment of aircraft and helicopters for aerial application of pesticides.
- (5) Strengthening of Survey and communication network.
- (6) Constitution of co-ordination committees at the District, Tehsil and Sub-Tehsil level.
- (7) Setting up of control rooms.
- (8) Supply of equipment and pesticides to the District authorities.
- (9) Alerting neighbouring States to take necessary proparatory steps for effective control of possible locust incursion.

[English]

OILPALM SEEDLINGS

*217. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHER-JEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) at Palode near Trivandrum is able to meet the growing demand of oilpalm seedlings in the country;

(b) if so, the demand and availability of the oilpalm seedlings at present;