

know from the hon. Minister whether the Department of Archaeological Survey of India has taken up any such project in some other country with a view to strengthen our cultural relations with them.

MR. SPEAKER: I have disallowed it now I also disallow this question.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Secondly, I would like to know whether the Archaeological Survey of India has a plan with them for the restoration of old temples of national and historical importance in the country and abroad.

[English]

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

\*271. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme has been introduced in the country;

(b) whether the Government have incurred loss under the Scheme;

(c) if so, the quantum of loss suffered by the Government under this Scheme during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether any other proposal is likely to be considered in lieu of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme so as to provide relief to cultivators; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A *Statement* indicating details of losses in the States in which claims exceeded the premia income during the last three years is laid on the Table of the House. Losses incurred at all India level in the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 were Rs. 7443.51 lakhs, Rs. 18583.33 lakhs and Rs. 2857.72 lakhs respectively.

(d) and (e) With a view to broadening the coverage of crops and farmers, it is proposed to introduce a Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme (PCIS) in one district of every State/U.T., covering all farmers and all crops (except fruits).

#### **STATEMENT**

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State/U.T.	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	279.44	2743.43	1101.28
2.	Bihar	2.68	378.41	1336.57
3.	Gujarat	6681.86	13096.71	—

1	3	2	4	5
4.	Karnataka	11.06	13.78	439.52
5.	Kerala	—	11.72	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	—	412.72	43.46
7.	Maharashtra	—	2020.76	—
8.	Orissa	225.81	27.28	440.42
9.	Tamil Nadu	103.47	—	102.95
10.	West Bengal	266.68	—	—
11.	Pondicherry	—	—	1.02

Note: Losses means total claims amount less premia income.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that for want of a proper criteria for the comprehensive crop Insurance Scheme, a large number of farmers have been denied the benefit of this scheme. As per the details given in respect of Maharashtra, it can be seen that in the year 1992-93, a large number of farmers in drought affected areas were denied the benefits of this scheme. In view of this situation, whether the hon. Minister is going to make some improvements in this scheme.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that comprehensive Insurance Scheme is an area-based and credit-linked scheme. It is also subject to the discretion of State Governments. However, we are going to introduce Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme, which will solve the problems referred to by the hon. Member.

SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether

the Government is going to take some measures to cover more crops and farmers under this scheme.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already told that under comprehensive Pilot Scheme, we have covered all the crops. (*Interruptions*) for some reasons, we have not been able to cover all the farmers under this scheme. However, we have covered all the crops under it. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister had announced long back that similar scheme will be brought forward to protect the interests of the farmers. The hon. Agriculture Minister had also promised about this on the floor of the House long back. But abnormal delay is taking place in grounding this Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, in this new Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme, which is going to be implemented, such farmers

who have not received any loan from the Cooperative Banks or the financial institutions also will be covered. In the present comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme, only loanee farmers will be eligible.

The second clarification which I would like to know from the hon. Minister is whether a revenue village will be taken as a defined area, which will, to the maximum extent, protect the interests of the farmers, who have really lost the crops due to floods or droughts.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the new Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme is before the Parliament and it has to be discussed in the Parliament. It has already been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. The hon. Member has asked a specific question, whether the farmers who have not taken any loan will be covered. My answer is "yes". They will also be covered.

According to the new Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme, the Gram Panchayat is covered.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a good question. Only those farmers who have taken loans from banks are covered under the Crop Insurance Scheme. The benefit of this scheme is not available to all the farmers.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to ask question?

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Which of the crops are going to be covered under the new scheme you are going to introduce. (*Interruptions*) It should cover all the crops.

MR. SPEAKER: He has told this.

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Farmers are the worst affected by flood and drought. Everybody wants that Crop Insurance Scheme should work well. To achieve that end it should be ensured that the benefit of Crop Insurance Scheme which is at present available only to these farmers who have taken loan from banks, should be extended to all the farmers. By what time the government is going to implement this scheme.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: When are you going to implement this scheme?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be implemented after the discussion on it in the Parliament is over.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, farmers are not getting the due amount of money under the Crop Insurance Scheme. Sometime back, there was a widespread unrest among the farmers of Gujarat on this issue. The State Governments and the Central Government work in close Coordination to implement these schemes. However, in case such a scheme is launched by the Central Government, the farmers should be paid their claims direct by the Central Government.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as regards amount of compensation to be given under the Crop Insurance Scheme, it is equally shared by the state Government and the Central Government. All the State Governments

have been facing problems (Interruptions).

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: The Government has started a comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme for providing relief to farmers. Relief is paid to the farmers for damage caused to the crops due to natural calamities. Some time ago, when the rabi crops were being harvested, the rabi crops in plains of Ganga and border area of Bihar were damaged due to heavy rain. Prior to this at the time of sowing of rabi crops the damage was done due to drought. I would like to know whether only those farmers who take loans from the banks are covered under this scheme or the farmers who do not take loans through the banks are also covered under this scheme?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already replied this point.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Which farmers are covered under this scheme? Suppose there are one thousand farmers there in a particular area and the damage was done to only ten farmers, whether the criteria is based on areawise or individual wise? Similarly, there are Panchayats in villages. If there is an incident of fire in one of the barns in a village under a Panchayat, the crop of 2-3 farmers were damaged in it, at that time whether you take this case under this scheme or you take the case of damage only if the farmers of whole Panchayat suffered loss?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: The damage of barns is not covered in the insurance scheme.

[English]

SHRI SHANKARRAO D. KALE: Sir, I would like to know whether the hon.

Minister will be in a position to put up this subject before the Parliament for discussion and consideration.

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR: Sir, through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister that when this comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme was introduced in the country, why were three important States like Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana excluded from the scheme?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: This is a voluntary scheme. The State Government can accept this scheme or not.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to put a question to the Minister of Agriculture about the affected farmers.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask Question sensibly.

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: The Government has made barrages in some areas for providing relief to the farmers. It has resulted in water logging at some places. Due to this lakhs of farmers of the area were ruined. Their houses and crops were damaged. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to provide relief to those farmers under crop insurance scheme.

[English]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: It is a suggestion for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, this is an assurance. You make it clear.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Sir, it is

a question whether we have a policy or not. This is not a calamity. This is our own policy and the Irrigation Minister can handle this question very well.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: The crop insurance scheme is for the benefit of farmers. At the time of harvesting, prices of foodgrains fall down. As farmers need money, they have to sell their produce at cheaper rates but when stocks of foodgrains with farmers exhaust, prices of foodgrains increase. Therefore, I would like to know whether there is any proposal to construct godowns at block level under the insurance scheme as we have cold storage for potato.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question does not arise.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as Shri Jakhar has just now stated that loss suffered by farmers due to water logging is not a natural calamity and such damage do not come under it because this is not a natural calamity. But Mr. Speaker, Sir, this calamity is created by the Government therefore this problem is being faced by the farmers. Their entire crops were destroyed. I would like to submit that whether this is a natural calamity or calamity created by the Government the farmers are the sufferers. Will the Minister make any provision to give them relief?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this insurance scheme is only for natural calamity.

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the country there are crop sharer and landless farmers who have been given land by the Government, there is no provision for them for taking loans

from the banks. I would like to know from the Government whether the Government is considering to provide loans to them under the crop insurance scheme.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: There is no such proposal.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, for the past three years, the crop insurance claims to the extent of Rs. 135 crore are pending with the insurance companies for payment. I would like to know whether these pending claims have come to the notice of the Union Government and, if so, what are the reasons for this pendency and when are they going to make the payments to the farmers.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, I shall collect the information and pass on to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the statement of allocation of funds furnished by the hon. Minister, no fund was given to Gujarat for 1992-93 under the scheme, I would like to know whether the Government of Gujarat has put no case for crop insurance or the injustice is being done by the Central Government? Kindly tell about this?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per my information the share of the Government of Gujarat was given by the Central Government.

*[English]*

DR. R. MALLU: Sir, it is mentioned here that there are consecutive losses of Rs. 74 crore, Rs. 105 crore and Rs. 20 crore, incurred by the insurance companies during the last three years. I want to know the reasons for these continuous losses on the part of the Government.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, it is obvious that premium in this insurance is very less and damages are more. That is why these losses are there.

*[Translation]*

DR. CHATTRAPAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem of fruit growers farmers is quite different. In addition to natural calamities, some times the mango crop of whole orchard is damaged due to crop diseases. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to include fruit growers under this insurance scheme?

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Sir, fruits and plantation are not included in this. Here I want to give two clarifications. Here it was mentioned that the share of Central Government and State Government are equal but it is in the ratio of 2:1. It is not proper to lay the second issue in the House as it has not so far been referred to the Cabinet. This issue is clubbed with the new agricultural policy therefore I misunderstand it.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You correct it.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]***World Food Day**

\*263. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the theme of the World Food Day this year; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the desired theme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) The theme of the World Food Day this year is 'HARVESTING NATURE'S DIVERSITY'.

(b) The Agriculture Policy Resolution of the Government aims at promoting, inter alia, sustainable agriculture, rooted in environmentally sound farming practices and conservation of biodiversity including crop varieties, livestock breeds etc. Our national policy, therefore, is directed towards conservation, development and management of our biodiversity.

**Wagons' Orders with H.D.C.L.**

\*264. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have placed orders with M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation Ltd., West Bengal for the manufacture and supply of wagons and coaches;

(b) if so, the details with terms and conditions thereof; and