

by the authorities on their own on the birthday of Nizam of Hyderabad before completing their sentences seeking the directions of the Hon'ble Court for grant of pension. Hon'ble Supreme Court in their judgment dated 13.9.1991 have given directions that these freedom fighters be granted pension with effect from 1.8.1980.

On receipt of the copy of the judgment immediate action was initiated to process the cases of the persons involved. So far, pension has been sanctioned to 26 persons who could furnish Identification Documents complete in all respects. Pension to remaining persons is to be sanctioned on receipt of necessary Identification Documents complete in all respects.

#### **National Oilseeds Research Centres**

9359. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up National Oilseeds Research Centres in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the location identified thereof; and

(c) the efforts made to increase production of oilseeds in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) and (b). Sir, The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is to set up a National Research Centre on Rapeseed-Mustard at Bharatpur, Rajasthan. National Research Centres for Groundnut and Soybean already exist at Junagardh and Indore respectively.

(c) A number of improved varieties with resistance to major biotic and abiotic stresses and suitable for traditional and non-traditional

seasons and situations have been developed.

Under the centrally sponsored 'Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)', financial support is provided for basic inputs, plant protection measures, improved farm implements and demonstrations.

#### **Criteria for allotment of LPG Agency**

9360. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the norms/criteria prescribed for allotting a LPG agency, selecting the site for allotment and identifying the areas of jurisdiction of the distributor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): As per present policy new LPG agencies are opened in a phased manner at different locations including municipal towns having a population of 20,000 and above depending upon the economic viability and availability of products etc. Selection of all dealers are carried out as per Industry Guidelines under various categories through approved Selection Boards and also at the discretion of Government.

The marketing area of a dealer is generally confined within the municipal limits of the town; and the size of the market and number of dealers operating in the area etc. Further LPG distributors in all hilly markets and those distributors operating in urban areas who do not reach economically viable level of operation due to inadequate potential after 2 completed years are permitted to provide connections within the radius of 15 Kms.

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

9361. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include more crops under the comprehensive crop insurance scheme and also to increase the area under this scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total outstanding claims payable under the scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to cover more crops under the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). The CCIS is an area based voluntary scheme and implementing State Governments/UTs. are free to notify any area for an insured crop under the scheme provided they have past yield data as also the capability of conducting 16 Crop cutting experiments at the end of every season. Thus, it is for the implementing State/UT Administration to take necessary action for increasing the area under the CCIS. However, keeping in view the demands of the implementing States/UTs. to include more crops, it has recently been decided that while the existing scheme in the present form may continue, a pilot scheme covering all farmers and all crops against all risks, may be implemented in one district or every States/U.T. charging actuarial rates of premia. Action has since been initiated to formulate the proposed scheme.

(c) The total outstanding claims so far which are yet to be paid under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) are to the tune of Rs. 291.75 crore.

#### **Governing Body of ICCR**

9362. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the present members

of the Governing Body of Indian Council of Cultural Relations; and

(b) the salient features of the constitution of the Body and the mode of selection of its Member?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A Statement I is attached.

(b) A Statement II is attached.

#### **STATEMENT-I**

Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma  
Vice President of India  
President ICCR

Shri J.J. Dixit  
Foreign Secretary  
Vice President, ICCR

Smt. Pупul Jayakar  
Vice President, ICCR

Shri H.Y. Sharada Prasad  
Vice President, ICCR

Smt (Dr) Najma Hoptulla, Member of  
the Rajya Sabha  
Deputy Chairman  
Rajya Sabha

Shri Arvind Trivedi, Member of the Lok  
Sabha

Smt Bibhu Kumari Devi, Member of the  
Lok Sabha

Dr. O.P. Chattopadhyaya  
Calcutta

Shri M.J. Akbar

Shri Anil Bordia  
Secretary (Education), Govt. of India