

(b) There is a proposal to raise oil palm on 5000 ha. in Kari lands of Kuttanad. The proposal envisages developing 200 ha. of oil palm on Kari land as a pilot scheme.

(c) The oil palm fruits produced during the last three years in the plantations of Oil Palm India Limited, Kerala is given below:

1988-89	10,400 MT
1989-90	10,353 MT
1990-91	12,424 MT

S.T.D. Facility in Kollam District of Kerala

2230. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide STD facility in various Telephone Exchanges in Kollam district of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, progressively during the coming years.

(b) The following stations are planned to be provided with S.T.D. facility in Kollam district during 1991-92.

ANCHAL, CHAVARA, OCHIRA & PATHANAPURAM.

(c) The necessary infrastructure is being created.

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains in Rajasthan

2231. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of wheat, millet and maize have been

declining in Rajasthan during the last last three years:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the declining trend in foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir,

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) To assist the State of Rajasthan for increasing the production and productivity of foodgrains, a Special Foodgrain Production Programme (SFPP)—wheat and maize & millets is being implemented since the last three years.

[English]

Irrigation Projects of Kerala

2232. SHRI T. J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation project of Kerala pending with the Union Government; and

(b) the reasons for delay in according clearance to those projects and the time by which those are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) There is only one project, namely, Idmalayar Irrigation Project under the consideration of the Central Water Commission.

The Idmalayar Irrigation Project report for an estimated cost of Rs. 17.85 crores was first received at Central Water Commission in June 1976. The observations on the project proposal were sent to the State Government for compliance. The State Government informed in February 1985 that the project was being

re-appraised. Subsequently a modified report for an estimated cost of Rs. 67.40 crores envisaging benefits to an area of 27500 hectares has been received in June 1990. The State Government have been requested in October 1990 to furnish clarifications for deciding its acceptability for detailed examination. The clearance depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations and establishes techno-economic viability of the project.

[*Translation*]

Close of Mica Mines in Bihar

2233. SHRI BHUVNESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of mica mines in Bihar have been closed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of workers rendered unemployed as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct any inquiry in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to reopen those mines and provide employment to the workers rendered unemployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Land under Irrigation in Bihar

2234. SHRI BHUVNESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of cultivable land in Bihar; and

(b) the percentage of this land brought under irrigation so far?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The total cultivable area of Bihar is 11248 thousand hectares. The Gross area brought under irrigation facilities up to 1990-91 is 8.452 thousand hectares, which is 75.14% of the cultivable area.

[*English*]

Land Holdings

2235. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of land holdings of small and marginal farmers and the actual area cultivated by them in the country; and

(b) the estimated marketable surplus of foodgrains produced by the small and marginal farmers in the country and its percentage to the total marketable surplus of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) According to the results of Agricultural Census, 1985-86 the percentage of operational holdings of small and marginal farmers to the total number of operational holdings in the country is 18.4 and 57.8 respectively. The net cultivated area of small and marginal farmers in the country is 242.0 and 206.3 lakh hectares respectively.

(b) Information is not available.

S.T.D. facility in Andhra Pradesh

2236. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of towns having STD facility in Andhra Pradesh at present; and