

facing drought conditions.

(c) and (d). The State Government of Maharashtra submitted a Memorandum seeking additional Central assistance of Rs. 576.58 crores for 1991-92 and Rs. 212.83 crores for 1992-93 for meeting expenditure on management of drought. Request of the State Government has been considered in the light of existing policy for financing relief expenditure and it was felt that no additional Central assistance can be provided for this purpose at this juncture. The State Government of Maharashtra has been advised to meet the expenditure on management of the drought out of the corpus of the Calamity Relief Fund. Ministry of Finance has been requested to release the fourth installment of the Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 8.25 crores in advance which in normal course would have been released in January, 1992.

The State Government of Gujarat has written to this Ministry on 23.11.1991 seeking additional Central assistance of about Rs. 600.00 crores for drought relief operations. The request of the State Government of Gujarat is being examined in the light of the existing policy for financing relief expenditure.

#### **Draft National Policy on Agriculture**

\*119. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:  
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments/ Union Territories and Agricultural Universities have forwarded their comments to the Union Government on the Draft National Policy on Agriculture;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) the likely date by which the Government propose to introduce this policy and the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b). Fourteen States/Union Territories and nine

agricultural universities have sent their comments so far. They have generally agreed with the broad framework of the policy and have made suggestions which are mostly in the nature of specific programmes relating to geographical and functional areas.

(c) State Governments/Agricultural Universities have been again reminded to send their comments immediately.

Further action on the draft Agricultural Policy Resolution will be taken after the receipt of comments from the State Governments.

[Translation]

#### **Irrigation Projects and Dams in Uttar Pradesh**

\*120. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:  
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigation projects and dams in Uttar Pradesh pending clearance with the Union Government;

(b) whether some of these proposals pertain to the districts of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the reasons for delay in according clearance to these projects and the time by which they are likely to be cleared;

(e) whether some of the ongoing projects in the state are running behind schedule;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the extent of cost escalation as a result of delay?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (g). A Statement I & II are laid on the Table of the House.