

of the tractor manufacturers for which steps have already been taken by Government to create necessary capacity in such cases.

Soil Survey Institute at Nagpur

2801. SHRI VASANT SATHE;
SHRI DHAMANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a Soil Survey Institute at a centrally located place like Nagpur; and

(b) if so, facts of the proposal and decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir the existing all India Soil and Land Use Survey Organisation has been proposed to be strengthened and reorganised into a Directorate of All India Soil and Land Use Survey under the fifth plan proposals with an outlay of Rs 3.75 crores. The Directorate is proposed to be located at Nagpur.

The main objectives of the Directorate include, quantitative and qualitative assessment of soil and land resources as well as preparation of soil maps for scientific planning of land utilization. It will conduct reconnaissance soil survey independently and detailed soil survey in collaboration with State Soil survey organisations with a view to prepare soil survey maps in suitable scales and reports for land users. Aerial photographs satellite photographs and other remote sensing devices will be used in collaboration with the Space Applications Research Centre to facilitate scientific soil survey work. Research will be intensified to develop better understanding of soil genesis, so as to refine

the criteria for characterisation, classification, correlation and interpretation of soils for rational land utilization. When the Fifth plan proposals are implemented, there will be six regional soil correlation centres functioning in different regions of the country, each with 20 field parties to achieve the objectives.

Demand for Teaching Universities in Karnataka State

2802. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand for starting new teaching universities for some of the colleges which are now affiliated to distant universities in Karnataka State has been made to the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF S NURUL HASAN) (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has not received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka regarding establishment of new teaching universities in Karnataka.

Development of Infra-Structural in Coastal Fishing Villages under Central Scheme

2803 SHRI C. H. MOHAMMED KOYA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for development of infra-structure in coastal fishing villages has been included as a Centrally sponsored scheme under the Ministry of Agriculture;

(b) the number of road works proposed to be undertaken in the coastal fishing villages of Kerala; and

(c) the total amount released to the Government of Kerala under this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Kerala has proposed 55 new coastal roads in addition to completing another 55 coastal roads under construction.

(c) There is a Centrally sponsored scheme for *infra-structure* facilities in coastal fishing villages which provides for construction of roads and wells in the villages. It is now proposed to develop under this scheme big fishing villages in coastal States in an integrated manner by providing for increased production, roads, processing plants and effective marketing. The matter is being examined in consultation with State Governments.

Starvation in Sunderbans, West Bengal

2804. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the "Project Tiger" consensus says that there are about 40 Royal Bengal Tigers left in the Sunderbans and every effort is being made that this number should not decrease;

(b) whether, while going into the interior of Sunderbans, one passes through villages where children are dying of malnutrition, making totis and broth out of dried grass seeds; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Grand Sunderban Development Board to save the starving thousands who share the space with the two scores tigers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha, as soon as it is received.

Poor performance by Indian Table Tennis Players at Calcutta

2805 SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian players of Table Tennis have shown a poor performance at the International games held at Calcutta;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether an enquiry Committee has been set up by the Government to find out causes of poor show of Indian players at international level; and

(c) the time by which the report of the Committee is expected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c). Both Indian Men's and Women's teams finished 15th in the 33rd Table Tennis Championships held at Calcutta during February, 1975. They thus retained their position in Group-I consisting of 16 top Table Tennis Associations all over the World. Considering the prevailing high standards of table tennis at International level, the performance of both men's and women's teams by being placed 15th amongst 62 countries that participated in the Championships, is not unsatisfactory, although Government would have wished that the Indian teams had done better.

Land Grabbing in States

2806. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether cases of land grabbing in the country are on increase; and

(b) if so, cases of land grabbing in various States with particular reference to Rajasthan during the last two