

as in case of WFP 348 and WFP 618 projects ; and

(c) whether Government will review all earlier WFP projects and work out an effective infrastructure for timely assessment and corrective action in accordance with project objectives and UN procedures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) Yes, Sir. In October, 1985, Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA), the governing council of WFP, has approved commodity aid for two projects worth about 24.5 million dollars, as follows :—

Projects	Commodity (MT)			Period	Value US \$ in million
	Wheat	Vegetable Oil	Pulses		
1. Forestry activities in Rajasthan.	34,300	3,430	3,430	5 years	12.1
2. Irrigation and Command Area Development in Karnataka.	45,720	1,372	2,744	3 years	12.4

Under these projects, the WFP food will be provided to the labourers as part of the wages at a subsidised rate and will raise their level of income and nutrition. Besides, the fund generated from supply of these commodities at the projects will be utilised for development of socio-economic welfare amenities and creation of infrastructure in the project area.

(b) No, Sir. The WFP assistance has been effectively utilised in all the project 348—Improvement of Milk Supply through Balanced Feeding of Cattle and Milk Toning and Project 618—Milk Marketing and Dairy Development.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to review the projects which have already been terminated in due course and reviewed at the time of termination.

According to the Procedure in vogue, the WFP aid to the projects is commenced only after ensuring the existence of necessary infrastructure. Later on, the progress of utilisation of WFP assistance at the project is regularly reviewed/evaluated and monitored by the Government and WFP at frequent intervals. The remedial measures, whenever necessary, are taken for effective utilisation of WFP aid and for

achieving the objectives of the project. Even after termination of the project, a terminal evaluation is made with reference to utilisation of WFP aid and accomplishment of the objectives of the project.

Implementation of plantation labour housing scheme

2134. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a laxity in the implementation of the plantation labour housing scheme ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) the percentage of plantation workers who have been provided with houses under the scheme ;

(d) the time by which the entire number of plantation workers are likely to get accommodation ; and

(e) the efforts made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (e) Section 15 of the plantations Labour Act

1951 makes it obligatory for every employer in a plantation to provide and maintain housing accommodation to all workers and their families. The Rules framed by the State under the above Act require the employers to construct suitable housing accommodation for at least 8% of their workers every year until all of them are adequately housed. On account of financial difficulties many employees were not able to fulfil this obligation. Consequently, a Scheme known as the 'Plantation Labour Housing Scheme' (now renamed as Subsidised Housing Scheme for Plantation Workers) was introduced in April 1956 to help the Planters and it was transferred to the Central Sector with effect from 1.4.1970. As per the information furnished by State Governments, 1,90,441 Plantation Workers are yet to be provided with residential accommodation. The number of houses sanctioned and completed under the Scheme, as on 30.6.84, is 51413 and 38613 respectively.

The progress of implementation of scheme during the 6th Plan Period has been far below expectations. As against the total Sixth Plan outlay of Rs. 10,00 crores, only Rs. 7.13 crores could be released. An outlay of Rs. 2.00 crores has been provided in Seventh Five Year Plan for this Scheme.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of T.V. Relay Centres in U.P.

2135. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received proposals from public representatives for setting up of television relay centres at Bageshwar, Didihat, Dharchula, Munsyari and Manila in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) if so, whether there is any possibility of installation of T. V. towers at these places during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if not, alternative steps proposed to be taken to cover those areas under T.V. net work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Whereas a low power TV transmitter is at present functioning at Pithoragarh, it is envisaged to set up subject to year-wise phasing and priorities as may be agreed to by the Planning Commission, low power TV transmitters, one each at Almora, Kausani and Ranikhet in Almora district. Further expansion of TV extension to Almora and Pithoragarh districts would depend upon availability of financial resources in future plans for TV expansion.

[*English*]

Abolition of National Fund for Rural Development

2136. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Fund for Rural Development is likely to be abolished;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the purpose of the National Fund for Rural Development and how was it utilised in the last few years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) There is no proposal at present under consideration to abolish National Fund for Rural Development (NFRD).

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The purpose of the Fund is to tap additional resources to accelerate rural development by offering income tax concessions to the corporate bodies and individuals under Section 35 CCA and 80 GGA on the sums donated to the National Fund for Rural Development. The amounts donated to the Fund are utilised for rural development projects.