

(c) whether the scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have also made any survey to rejuvenate the orange trees which were affected by the hailstorm; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof and other steps contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed measures for rejuvenation have been suggested which include pruning of affected branches, use of fungicides for control of diseases at monthly intervals for 2 months, application of booster dose of fertiliser, spray of micro-nutrients and regular irrigation, besides other routine operations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up steel stock yard at Bhopal

5548. SHRI K. N. PRADHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India had taken a decision in the past to set up steel stock yard at Bhopal; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Evaluation of rural development programme

5549. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up an evaluation committee to

evaluate the NREP, RLEGP, IRDP and DPAP implemented so far; and

(b) whether Government propose to take up this exercise in chronic drought prone areas with a low rainfall like the districts in Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the Department of Rural Development has been undertaking a concurrent evaluation of IRDP with the assistance of reputed research, academic and professional institutions in various parts of the country. This programme launched in October, 1985 is expected to cover all the districts in the country by September, 1986. On assessing the benefit of this concurrent evaluation of IRDP, the Department may consider to undertake similar evaluation studies in respect of NREP and RLEGP.

Import of pulses by National Dairy Development Board

5550. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board has been handling imports of pulses on behalf of foreign agencies and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the imports were handled by the National Dairy Development Board with prior Government approval and if so, the profits earned and quantities handled;

(c) whether the National Dairy Development Board has been asked to serve as a canalising agency for import of pulses, milk products, casein and vegetable oils in the past also; and

(d) whether the National Dairy Development Board is also to serve as sole exporter of prized soyabean cattle-feed and sole importer of surplus cattle from Europe ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No Sir. It may be mentioned however that under the Import