features of the project are (i) Construction of fishing harbour at Tadri (ii) Construction of 1400 sq. m Auction hall (iii) Construction of ice and freezing complex (iv) Distribution of gill netters and purse-seiners. (v) Construction of Community houses for rehabilitation of 500 fishermen families. (vi) Providing Water supply drainage and power supply etc.

Kasafal Project : The project will be implemented in 4 years from October 1985 at an estimated cost of Rs. 300 lakhs with Norwegian assistance. The main components are (i) Construction of fish landing jetty (ii) Construction of access roads to villages (iii) Setting up of ice plant, cold storage (iv) Supply of drinking water (v) Improvement of fish marketing conditions (vi) Housing and medical facilities to the local fishermen etc.

Astarang Project : The project at an estimated cost of Rs. 642 lakhs became effective since January 1984 under bilateral assistance from U.K. The project is scheduled to be implemented over a period of 5 years. The main components of the project are (i) Construction of a fishing harbour at Astarang (ii) Introduction of 80 mechanised fishing vessels of 10 mts length and (iii) Providing shore facilities like ice plants, cold storage etc.

The number of marine fishermen as reported by the State Government recently is 2,82,872 in Karnataka, 1,26,135 in Orissa, 1,77,212 in Gujarat, and 3,26,304 in Andhra Pradesh.

National Watershed Development Programme

8077. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Technology Mission for Dryland farming has been launched for providing improved seeds, organic manures instead of chemical fertilisers, payment of higher prices to farmers, improved tools and water conservation etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture for the development of dryland areas is proposed to be launched from 1986-87. Through this scheme, the appropriate technology available and suitable for different dryland areas will be popularised. The main features of the Scheme are (i) Land and moisture management, cropping system introduction including dryland horticulture, fodder production and farm forestry; (ii) contingency seed stocking and supply of seedlings and grass seed/slips; (iii) Training; (iv) adaptive research activity; (v) Provision of survey equipment and fabrication of new tools; and (vi) preparation of field mannuals, etc.

Implementation of crop insurance

8078. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the crop insurance concept is modelled on the pattern of Japanese Crop Insurance;

(b) whether Government propose to make innovations in the scheme to increase its appeal to motivate the farmers to adopt it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Suggestions had been received from various State Governments for making modifications in the scheme so as to make it more attractive to the farmers than at present. A High Level Committee of officers looked into those suggestions and has made certain recommendations. Action has been initiated to examine the recommendations expeditiously.

Scheme for rehabilitation of farmers affected by droughts

8079. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased