

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 manuals, 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

to state whether Government propose to introduce a scheme for rehabilitation of farmers by writing off their debts which they are not able to pay due to successive drought in the country on the lines of the schemes for revitalisation of sick industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : The Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Weak Central Cooperative Banks in the country, which was in operation during the period from 1972-73 to 1979-80, *inter-alia*, provided for writing off irrecoverable dues of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACs), outstanding against small and marginal farmers. After 1979-80, some of the States are still continuing the said scheme on need-based considerations, as a part of their own plan. Besides, some States have also set-up Agricultural Credit Relief Funds to meet the expenditure on write-off of irrecoverable overdues on account of successive natural calamities. The Government of India has not introduced any scheme to write off the debts of farmers affected by successive natural calamities. However, a Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme has been introduced in the country since Kharif 1985. This scheme is intended to provide a measure of financial support to farmers in the event of a crop failure as a result of natural calamities; and to restore the credit eligibility of farmers, after a crop failure, for the next crop season.

Mandays lost during 1985 due to strikes and lockouts

8080. **SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts during 1985;

(b) whether there was improvement or deterioration in the position as compared with 1984; and

(c) the main causes of strikes and lockouts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.

SANGMA) : (a) and (b). There has been an improvement in the industrial relations situation with the number of mandays lost sharply declining from 56.03 million in 1984 to 29.19 million in 1985.

(c) A cause-wise analysis of industrial disputes reveals that, amongst others, wages and allowances, indiscipline and violence and personnel and retrenchment, have been the main reasons for strikes and lockouts.

Increase in poultry production

8081. **SHRI D. N. REDDY :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether increase in poultry production is due to poultry layer strains like HH-260 and BH-78, fast broiler strains developed by Central Poultry Breeding Farms and ICAR Institutes;

(b) whether this is based on data of poultry strains actually in use and if so, the estimated details of various poultry strains in use indicating the source of the strain; and

(c) whether successful poultry farmers are mostly landless and live below poverty line and if so, the details of their income before and after taking to poultry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The major contribution in increasing poultry production has been made by layer and broiler strains being made available to the poultry farmers by the private sector pureline poultry breeding farms as well as grandparent stock import based hatcheries. The strains developed at the Central Poultry Breeding Farms and under the ICAR Co-ordinated Poultry Breeding Projects have also contributed to this growth.

(b) In view of answer to part (a), the question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.