

ing in the escalation of the costs of the projects;

(b) if so, whether steps would be taken to shorten/simplify the procedure and process of land acquisition;

(c) whether the various Departments of the Central Government would also appoint their own land acquisition officers so as to expedite the process in coordination with the State Government officers;

(d) if so, the likely date by which a decision would be taken in this regard and the necessary arrangements in the existing Act initiated; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b). The Land Acquisition Act 1894 was comprehensively amended in 1984 wherein a definite time limit has been prescribed so that Land Acquisition proceedings are completed expeditiously. No slowing down of the process of Acquisition in recent past has come to the note of Government though the possibility of delay in some specific proceedings on account of litigation or other factor cannot be ruled out.

(c) In exercise of powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 258 of the Constitution, the functions of Central Government have also been entrusted to the State Governments for acquisition of land under Land Acquisition Act for the purposes of the Union.

No proposal from any Department of Central Government has so far been received for appointing their own Land Acquisition Officers.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

Swiss aid for dairy farming in Kerala

5753. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government received any proposal for the development of dairy farming in Kerala with Swiss aid; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). A proposal was received from the State Government of Kerala implementation of a dairy development project in Northern Kerala - with Swiss assistance. The project aims to cover the districts of Cannanore, Kasargode Wyned, Mallappuram, Calicut and Palghat. Necessary administrative approval for the project has been given.

Area under paddy cultivation in Kerala

5754. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under paddy cultivation in the State of Kerala as on 31 December, 1986;

(b) the portion of this area irrigated by Centrally sponsored projects;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the irrigation facilities to more areas during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The area under crops including that of rice are collected on seasonal basis and not on month to month basis. As per the preliminary report, the coverage under paddy in Kerala during Kharif 1986-87 was 5.81 lakh hectares.

(b) Irrigation projects are planned, funded and operated by the State Government and there are no Centrally sponsored Irrigation Projects in the State of Kerala,