

free-hold in respect of residential plots, is still under consideration of Government and a final decision will be taken at the Cabinet level. The question of abolition of ground rent payment by the allottees of DDA flats in the Capital, can be examined only after a decision on above general issues is taken by Government.

Rural Integration Scheme

6686. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) when was the rural integration scheme initiated; and

(b) what is the progress of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme in its present form was initiated during 1978-79.

(b) A statement showing the progress achieved under the Integrated Rural Development Programme is enclosed.

Statement

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Statement showing financial and physical achievement during 1978-79 and 1979-80

(Rs. in lakhs)

Item	1978-79	1979-80*
1. Central share of allocation .	10368.00	8430.00
2. Amount released .	7045.00	5329.99
3. Reported Expenditure .	3266.73	6885.62
4. Number of families assisted .	624288	1475448

Item	1978-79	1979-80
5. Number of SC/ST families assisted .	N.A.	358579
6. Credit mobilised .	5460.11	10124.38

*(In 1978-79, outlays on this programme were fully met by the Central Government. However from 1979-80, the pattern of financing under-went a change whereby outlays on this programme are shared on a 50:50 basis by the Central and State/ UT Govts. Figures for 1979-80 indicate central share of the allocation and release of funds from the Centre to the States/UTs. Expenditure figure for 1979-80 covers both Central and State funds.).

Technology for Sandalwood in Karnataka

6687. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expert studies have been undertaken to improve the technology for plantation and conservation of sandalwood in Karnataka State;

(b) if so, what and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to increase the plantation of this wood in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.