

Community Tube-well for small and Marginal Farmer in Orissa

3251. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently framed any scheme to instal small size community tube-wells for the benefit of small and marginal farmers in backward areas, particularly in Orissa State;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) the area to be covered in the State of Orissa under this scheme?

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

Foodgrains supplied to Orissa

3252. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains supplied to the State of Orissa during the last two years and the quantum proposed to be supplied during the current year; and

(b) the details regarding the quantity of foodgrains supplied to the drought affected areas, district-wise during last one year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) During 1978-79 and 1979-80 financial years 2.08 and 3.89 lakh tonnes of foodgrains respectively were supplied to Orissa. Supply during the current year will depend on the requirements intimated by the State Government, the over-all availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool, relative needs of various States market availability and other relevant factors.

(b) The district-wise supplies of foodgrains in the drought affected

districts of the State during 1979-80 are not available.

Cuttack Milk Shed Project under Operation Flood-II in Orissa

3253. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa approached the Union Government to treat Cuttack Milk Shed Project under Operation Flood-II Programme in which funding pattern would be Indian Dairy Corporation to finance entire the project cost 70 per cent as loan and 30 per cent (as) in the form of grant; and

(b) whether the Government have instructed Indian Dairy Corporation to treat so and if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):

(a) and (b). No specific proposal was received from the Government of Orissa for inclusion of Cuttack Milk Shed under Operation Flood II programme. However, Cuttack Milk Shed has been included in the perspective plan prepared for Orissa by the State Government in consultation with the National Dairy Development Board for Operation Flood II. Under this programme, the funds required would be made available by the Indian Dairy Corporation broadly on 70 per cent loan and 30 per cent grant basis. The perspective plan has since also been appraised by the Indian Dairy Corporation.

Subsidy to States for Milk Production and Distribution

3254 SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are subsidising the milk producing and milk distributing schemes of State Governments where the consumption of milk is lower than the average per capita consumption of milk in India;

(b) whether Government have given any financial aid to the MILMA of Kerala; and

(c) if so, the amount of aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Government of India are not providing any subsidy as such for milk producing and distributing schemes of the State Governments. However, Government's main emphasis is on the provision of facilities required for increasing milk production throughout the country. Milk producers are being increasingly provided with services and inputs for better breeding, better health cover and feed cover for their animals. In some individual schemes, there is provision for subsidy on specific items e.g. prophylactic vaccination against common cattle diseases is carried out free of cost except in the case of Food and Mouth disease where 50 per cent of the cost of the Vaccine is subsidised by the Government of India and State Governments. Small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers are also given subsidy for concentrate feed from 4 months of age to 28 months of age in respect of cross-bred calves under the special livestock Production Programme.

(b) and (c). A Centrally sponsored dairy project estimated to cost Rs. 474.68 lakhs has been sanctioned for Kerala. Fifty per cent of the cost of the scheme is to be provided by Government of India. A sum of Rs. 401 lakhs has already been released as 30 per cent grant and 70 per cent loan to the State Government for implementation of the Project. The project is being implemented by the Kerala Livestock Development and Milk Marketing Board Ltd. (MILMA).

Rural Post Office in Backward and Tribal Districts of M. P.

3255. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned to intensify rural postal services and facilities during 1980-81;

(b) if so, how many new post offices and postal service facilities would be started in rural areas in 1980-81.

(c) how many new rural post offices would be started in the backward and Tribal Districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(d) how much new employment potential would be created in Post and Telegraph Department in covering rural areas of Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) how many fibre-glass post boxes are installed in 1979-80 and how many more are proposed during 1980-81 in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Development of rural postal services/facilities will be continued during 1980-81.

(b) Under the Annual Plan 1980-81 earlier approved by the Planning Commission the proposal is to open about 5,000 rural post offices in the country as a whole. The figure is subject to modification in the light of the new Five Year Plan for the period 1980-85.

(c) The general directive is that in each postal circle about 60 per cent of the new rural post offices opened should be in backward/hilly/tribal areas. In so far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, the proposal is to open 20 per cent of the new rural post offices in the tribal districts of the State.

(d) and (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.