

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) :** (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, two alternative sites have been suggested to the Government of Maharashtra for allotment of one of them to Doordarshan.

**Relief to Poor Sections hit by Natural Calamities**

2545. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have increased the amount of relief to the poor section of the society hit by natural calamities;

(b) whether additional allocation of funds has been made to State Governments for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details of allocation made by Union Government to different States in 1985-86, to provide immediate relief to the victims of natural calamities ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) The Government of India have revised the norms for Central assistance for natural calamities. These norms are effective from 1st July, 1986 and will apply to the natural calamities occurring on or after that date.

(b) and (c). No additional ceilings of expenditure have been approved so far on the basis of these revised norms. These revised norms will, however, be applied for approving ceilings of expenditure for relief in respect of natural calamities occurring on or after 1st July, 1986.

**Setting up of PIB Centre at Silchar**

2546. **SHRI SUDARSAN DAS :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Branch/Information Centre of the Press Information Bureau at Silchar, Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Prawn Culture**

2547. **SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has become the biggest exporter of prawns in the world;

(b) whether any survey has been carried out to determine the exploitable potential of prawns with our Exclusive Economic Zone, based on natural regeneration and if so, how much over-exploitation is being done; and

(c) what has been the success of prawn culture projects in the Country ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :** (a) According to FAO Year-book of Fisheries Statistics 1983, Fishery Commodities (Vol. 57), India was the biggest exporter of shrimp quantitatively during 1983.

(b) Survey has been carried out to determine the exploitable yield of prawns within our Exclusive Economic Zone. According to the report of the Technical Committee constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture, though certain areas have shown declining and fluctuating trends of exploited shrimp resources, over exploitation in shrimp fishing has not been noticed on all India level.

(c) On the basis of the success in prawn culture operation in Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, twenty two projects have been sanctioned covering the states of Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Gujarat, Haryana, Goa and Pondicherry under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Brackish-Water Aquaculture and are under construction.