

(a) whether a final decision has been taken with regard to the sites of A.I.R. stations to be located at Cannanore, Cochin and Idukky in Kerala; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) The site for the proposed F. M. radio station at Cochin has been finalised and the State Government requested to hand over the same to All India Radio.

A site for a similar radio station at Cannanore has been suggested by the State Government, recently. All India Radio Engineers are assessing the technical suitability of the site.

The site at Idukky which is surrounded by hill ranges will be finalised after carefully examining the terrain profile map of this area, selection of a site in suitable topography is important here to provide coverage to wider area in the hill covered Idukky district. Action for this purpose has already been taken in hand.

Financial assistance to Kerala for flood relief

500. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent to the devastating effect of the heavy monsoon on the Kerala coast, Government of Kerala have submitted any report on the assessment of the loss of life and property caused by rough weather along and off the coast of Kerala; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any request for the aid has been submitted by the Government of Kerala if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Central Government intends to extend any financial aid to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government of Kerala have not submitted any Memorandum seeking Central assistance in the wake of floods during current monsoons.

(c) Does not arise.

Allocation of funds by HUDCO to States during Seventh Plan

501. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation would spend Rs. 2,400 crores during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds proposed to be spent, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The tentative target of HUDCO for loan sanction during the Seventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 1845 crores. The State-wise allocation for loan sanction depends upon its area and population and also the operational targets of HUDCO for a particular year.

Study tours of farmers from Sikkim to other States

502. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry sponsors study tours of farmers from one State to other States;

(b) if so, whether any study tour of farmers of Sikkim to other States was sponsored;

(c) if so, the number of farmers, who visited the other States, the number of States visited and the years of their visits, and