

(a) the number of newspapers published in India and the number of newspapers registered in 1984-85 and 1985-86 ; and

(b) the procedure of getting title clearance for newspapers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) .

(a) Registrar of Newspapers for India maintains the requisite data on calendar year basis. The total number of newspapers registered as on 31.12.1984 and 31.12.85 were 21,784 and 22,648 respectively. The number of newspapers registered during the years 1984 and 1985 were 1,239 and 1,050 respectively.

(b) The detailed procedure for clearance of titles for newspapers is laid down in Sections 5 and 6 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, read with Rule 3 of the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Rules, 1956.

**Central Assistance to Hailstorm
Affected Districts of Maharashtra**

1379. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether heavy damages had been caused due to hailstorm in Maharashtra in the month of March, 1986 ;

(b) if so, the districts affected ;

(c) whether any Central team was deputed for making on-the spot study of the situation and assessing the need for central assistance ; and

(d) if so, the findings of the team and the amount of central assistance provided to the affected districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) Some parts of thirteen districts of Maharashtra were affected in varying degree due to hailstorm which hit the State during February and March, 1986. These thirteen districts are : Amravati, Nagpur, Wardha, Akola, Yavatmal, Jalgaon, Dhule,

Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara, Buldhana, Parbhani and Nanded.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of High Level Committee on Relief thereon, Central assistance of Rs. 41.84 lakh has been sanctioned to the Govt. of Maharashtra on 13.6.86. The districtwise allocation of Central assistance is made by the State Government.

**News-Item "Milk Scheme Critic
in EEC-WB Team"**

1380. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen a report appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated 17 July, 1986 entitled "Milk Scheme Critic in EEC-WB team" about the composition of EEC Team for evaluation of Operation Flood I, II & III ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(Report dated 14th July, 1986).

(b) A Joint EEC/World Bank Review Mission on Operation Flood II and Appraisal Mission on Operation Flood III of which Mr. P. Terhal is a Member, is already in the country. The Government has no comments on the news-item.

[*Translation*]

**Scheme to Educate People About Use
of Fertilizers**

1381. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme to educate the people about the use of fertilizers is being extended to different parts of the country ;