

West Bengal has been set up. A total package for West Bengal amounting to Rs. 684 crores has been cleared under which a scheme namely Marine Aquarium-cum-Research Centre in Digha has been included with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 crores. Planning Commission will monitor the progress of the scheme.

Crop Insurance Scheme

2947. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any directives have been issued by Union Government to the State Governments to introduce Crop Insurance Scheme compulsorily for the safeguard of farmers against natural calamities ;

(b) if so, the response given by the State Governments ; and

(c) whether Government propose to enact a law in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, 16 State Governments and 4 Union Territories have so far adopted the scheme. Some other State Governments are likely to adopt the scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

Import of Newsprint from Greece

2948. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is facing shortage of newsprint;

(b) whether it is proposed to import newsprint from Greece;

(c) if so, the terms and conditions on which newsprint is to be imported from Greece; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to encourage manufacture of newsprint in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) :

(a) Indigenous newsprint production is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the newspaper industry and hence the shortfall is made up through import of newsprint.

(b) and (c). As this is a commercial matter, it would not be in public interest to divulge the details.

(d) The sharp increase in production of indigenous newsprint from 75,000 M.T. in 1979-80 to 2.8 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 has been achieved with the commissioning of additional newsprint mills. The Newsprint Allocation Policy for the licensing years 1986-87, and 1987-88 a copy of which was placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on 13-11-1986, also contains a number of provisions aimed at encouraging the growth of the indigenous newsprint industry.

Production of Mustard and Rapeseed

2949. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed the targets for production of rapeseed and mustard during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have selected certain State/districts to achieve the targets in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The production target for Rapeseed-Mustard during the terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan (1989-90) has been fixed at 3.82 Million tonnes.

(c) and (d). In order to achieve the target, a Centrally Sponsored National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) for the development of oilseeds including Rapeseed-Mustard is in operation in important oilseeds growing States. In all, 13 States viz. Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal