

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) 24 towns in Madhya Pradesh have been included under the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns.

(b) Till 31.3 1987, Central assistance of Rs. 670.27 lakhs has been released to the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh under the Scheme for development of these towns.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) within the over-all allocation, towns for inclusion under the Scheme are sanctioned taking into consideration the recommendations of the State Government.

[English]

Sheep Development Project with World Bank Aid

6458. SHRI H.G. RAMULU :
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-
SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have requested Union Government to provide World Bank financial assistance for sheep development in the State ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ; and

(c) the allocation proposed to be made for the purpose during the year 1987-88 ?

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

(b) and (c) The policy of the Government of India is to encourage such projects. This project is under examination in consultation with the State Government and certain clarifications regarding funding the project from the State Government is yet awaited.

Assistance for Drought Prone Areas

6459. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of blocks in Andhra Pradesh recognised as drought prone for which Central assistance is being granted ;

(b) the rate of the assistance granted per block ;

(c) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for recognition of some more blocks as drought prone ;

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) 69 Block are covered under Drought Prone Area Programme in Andhra Pradesh. The allocation during 1987-88 is at the rate of Rs. 15 lakhs per block which will be shared by the Central Government and the State Government on 50 : 50 basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Closure of Korba Aluminium Plant

6461. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to shut down the Korba aluminium plant ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the number of employees likely to be rendered jobless ; and