Import of Foreign Films by NFDC

4266. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-CASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Film Development Corporation launched upon an ambitious plan to market foreign films, mostly in English;

(b) if so, the capital outlay involved;

(c) the cost of video films lying unsold with the NFDC at present;

(d) whether there are no buyers for them, particularly in the Eastern India;

(e) the manner in which the NFDC propose to dispose of the unsold casettes; and

(f) whether NFDC propose to continue or discontinue with its plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has launched a scheme for marketing of video cassettes of foreign films of which they have purchased video rights.

(b) No capital expenditure has been incurred on the marketing scheme *Per Se.* However, capital expenditure is involved in the purchase of video rights but since these rights are acquired by the Corporation along with rights for theatrical exhibition, it is not possible to a segregate capital expenditure on video rights.

(c) There are no video films lying unsold with NFDC. However, out of 35,000 video cassettes pertaining to 20 imported titles, about 1,000 video cassettes of 18 titles are lying in stock with NFDC. (d) NFDC has been facing some problems with its distributor in the Eastern Region. Efforts are being made to sort out these problems.

(e) The Cassettes are expected to be sold in due course.

(f) For the present, NFDC does not propose to discontinue the scheme.

Sheep Improvement In H.P. and J and K

4267. SHRI P. PENCHALLAIH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken under the centrally sponsored scheme to improve sheep and breeding projects in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): In order to improve Sheep Breeding Projects in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir under the centrally sponsored scheme, it has been proposed to organise Wool Board/Federations/Corporations.

In Jammu and Kashmir State, Sheep and Sheep Products Development Boards have been established for streamlining marketing of sheep and wool. The main functions of these organisations, besides marketing, would also cover improved methods of breeding, shearing, management and health cover to sheep population.

Dry Land Farming

4268. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PAR-ASHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any steps have been taken by Government for the promotion of dry land farming, especially in such areas which are facing recurring droughts and are also not capable of utilising any irrigation programme;

(b) if so, the nature and outline of steps taken in the Seventh Plan: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which any suitable strategy would be evolved in this regard?

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

(b) A number of programmes have been taken up during 7th Plan under the State and Central Sectors for the promotion of dry land farming. This includes the recently launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed Agriculture at a total outlay of Rs.239 crores. The main features of this scheme are:

- Land and moisture management, cropping systems introduction including dryland horticulture, fodder production and farm forestry;
- (ii) contingency seed stocking and supply of seedlings and grass seeds/slips;
- (iii) training;
- (iv) adaptive research activity;
- (v) provision of survey equipment and fabrication of new tools; and
- (vi) preparation of field manuals etc.
- (c) Question does not arise.

Implementation of Integrated Cooperative Development Scheme

4269. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts selected under a centrally sponsored scheme for the integrated cooperative development Statewise;

(b) the results achieved under the scheme State-wise; and

(c) the outline of development programme in near future?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) Five districts have so far been selected under the scheme 'Integrated Cooperative Development Projects in selected Districts'. These are: (1) Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh), (2) Bangalore (Karnataka), (3) Bishanpur (Manipur), (4) East Khasi Hills (Meghalaya), and (5) Nadia (West Bengal).

(b) The scheme was finally approved in December, 1986 for implementation. As the project envisaged for implementation is to run from four to five years, the results of the project could be known towards the end of the project period.

(c) The scheme aims at covering fifty districts by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Of them, five districts have already been selected; thirteen districts have been identified and in respect of which project reports are under preparation; and sixteen districts have been tentatively identified.

Development of Shrimp Culture

4270. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: