

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Dr. S.R. Sen Committee's recommendations relating to Eastern India were comprehensive, particularly focussing on providing adequate input and extension support to small and marginal farmers, including adaptive research on small farm technology, technical advice, irrigation and drainage, land reforms, seeds, fertilisers, plant protection, farm implements, credit and marketing. The concerned State Governments are, by and large, concerned with the implementation of these recommendations.

The recommendations of the Committee were considered at a Conference of Chief Ministers of Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal held at Patna on 8th January, 1986 under the Chairmanship of the then Union Agriculture Minister. Dr. Sen Committee had also recommended allocation of additional funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes to meet the additional requirements of these States. In his inaugural address, the then Union Agriculture Minister pointed out that in the Seventh Plan, much higher order of resources has been earmarked for the States than for the Centre for agricultural development. He also called upon the States to improve the quality of agricultural management and make full use of the resources made available to the States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes. He further pointed out that the Eastern States could double the supply, to their farmers, of short-term and long-term credit from the banking system, if they could enforce credit discipline.

[*Translation*]

#### **Losses due to Hailstorm**

230. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge damage has been caused to tropical fruits crop due to heavy hailstorm and gale during the last six

months in some parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the extent of loss suffered, and the assistance being made available to the fruit cultivators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). Damages to horticulture crops on 50,600 ha. valued at Rs. 31.91 crores in Himachal Pradesh and 10,420 ha. valued at Rs. 4.14 crores in Jammu & Kashmir have been reported by the respective State Governments due to hailstorm and rains since 1987. A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 70 lakhs has been approved for inputs subsidy for Horticulture to Himachal Pradesh. A Central team is currently visiting Jammu & Kashmir to determine the quantum of Central assistance to be approved for Jammu & Kashmir as per laid down norms and procedures.

[*English*]

#### **Funds Allotted to State Governments for Rural Electrification Schemes**

231. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the total amount of funds allotted to the State Governments as subsidies during the last three years for augmenting rural electrification schemes with State-wise and year-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): No subsidy is given to the State Governments for implementation of Rural Electrification schemes.

#### **Upgradation of Small Sector Technology**

232. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had organised a meeting recently to consider upgrada-