

(c) whether there is any export potential for fish?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Marine products Export Development Authority, however, is implementing two projects for the production of prawn larvae.

(c) Yes, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Project of U.P. Pending Clearance

4864. SHRI ASHKARAN SANKHAWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the acreage of irrigation land in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any proposal in regard to irrigation project in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI). (a) As per land use statistics 1983-84, the net irrigated area is 9879 thousand hectares

(b) and (c). Out of 11 projects received from Uttar Pradesh, comments on six have been sent to State Government for compliance, and four projects are already under implementation.

Central Assistance To Backward States

4865. SHRI ASHKARAN SANKHAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a):steps by Government to increase the financial assistance to the financially backward States like Uttar Pradesh under different heads during the current financial year; and

(b) the amount of assistance proposed to be given by Government to those States whose credit-deposit ratio is quite low?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) Normal Central assistance for State Plan is allocated on the basis of the modified Gadgil formula as approved by the National Development Council in August, 1980. The formula is weighted in favour of the less developed States. Under the formula 20% assistance out of the divisible pool is ear-marked for economically backward States i.e. States which have a per capita income below the national average. Besides, special consideration is given to border States and North Eastern Region as well as J & K and Himachal Pradesh which have a weak resource base. Further, since the commencement of the Sixth Plan the level of market borrowings provided for backward States has been stepped up by allowing them special market borrowings in addition to normal market borrowing allocated to all States uniformly.

(b) Credit deployment by banks in various States is monitored by States level Bankers' Committee with State Government and Reserve bank of India representatives. Banks have been advised that while preparing District Credit Plans and Annual Action Plans their endeavour should be to increase the flow of bank by formulating new bankable schemes, if necessary.

Import of Coins

4866. SHRI ASHKARAN SANKHAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be