

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to declare orange as a national fruit ; and

(c) if so, the criteria adopted by Government to declare any fruit as national fruit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) No fruit has been declared as national fruit by the Government of India so far.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration of Government of India to declare orange as national fruit.

(c) Does not arise.

Operational Research Units in Maharashtra

4781. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Maharashtra where Operational Research Units have been established by the end of 1987 ;

(b) the places where such units are proposed to be established during 1988 ; and

(c) whether Government have set up or propose to set up a network of agencies to monitor, evaluate and improve the working of such units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) Sir, the Operational Research Units have been established in Maharashtra at places indicated in the statement below.

(b) No such unit is proposed to be established during 1988.

(c) The Operational Research Projects are being monitored through eight Zonal Coordination Units located in different parts of the country under the overall

supervision, support and guidance of ICAR. Evaluation of the projects are done both by internal and external assessment Committees.

Statement

1. Rapoli, Raigad.
2. Kumbhave, Ratnagiri.
3. Parthi, Parbhani.
4. Beed.
5. Kolhewadi, Ahmednagar.
6. Gunj, Akola.
7. Chikhaldhara, Amravati.
8. Dharni, Amravati.
9. Aheri, Gabchiroli.
10. Kenwat, Nanded.
11. Ambejogat, Dist. Beed.
12. Akot, Akola.

Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers

4782. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have not made any headway in the implementation of the scheme to provide the sanctioned assistance to small and marginal farmers particularly in the State of Karnataka ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the action Government are taking in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production was launched during 1983-84 in all the 5047 IRD Blocks of the country including 175 Blocks in the State of Karnataka. The scheme is being continued during the Seventh Five Year Plan with a Central outlay of Rs. 500 crores.

Against the Central release of Rs. 379.22 Crores, the States have utilised about Rs. 335.88 crores for the implementation of the programme since inception upto 1987-88.

Karnataka Government utilised about Rs. 1174 lakhs against the Central release of Rs. 1228 lakhs since inception upto 1987-88. The Central funds are equally matched by the State Governments. In the case of Union Territories 100 percent assistance is provided by the Government of India. Periodical review is being made by Government of India to follow-up successful implementation of the Scheme.

Construction of Road

4783. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated from Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme for construction of road, namely Ranby-Biripati in Dasarathpur block of Cuttack district Orissa has less than the minimum requirement ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) when any steps have been taken to provide more funds for the road in this year ; and

(d) whether any direction has been given to the State Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) Government of India has not received/approved any project submitted by Orissa Government for construction of Ranby-Biripati road in Dasarathpur block of Cuttack district. However, a project for construction of Rambag-Biripath road of 1.2 km. in length costing Rs. 1.50 lakhs in Dasarathpur block of Cuttack district in Orissa along with other road works in different districts of the State, was approved by the Central Government under RLEGP during 1987-88.

The project was to be implemented within a period of two years. According to the information furnished by Orissa Government, the work on the road is in progress

The Government of India does not earmark the funds for specific projects. The resources allocated under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) are required to be spent on the approved projects. The allocation of resources for specific projects is the responsibility of the State Government. Government of India released Rs. 3275.70 lakhs during 1987-88 and has allocated Rs. 3030.00 lakhs (out of which Rs. 1655.99 lakhs has already been released) for 1988-89.

Complaints About Transportation Charges by Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers

4784 DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding collection of transportation charges by the Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Limited, Baruch, Gujarat ;

(b) if so, the details of the complaint ; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Baby Milk Food Powders and Weaning Foods

4785. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether baby milk food powders and weaning foods output has been increasing ;